

# THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

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## ECCLESIASTICAL AFFAIRS.

### FURTHER SIGNS OF PROGRESS.

WE pointed out, last week, some heads of evidence in favour of the steady progress of the British Anti-state-church Association—and we promised to return to the subject. That promise we now proceed to redeem.

They who have been conversant with the working of the Association from its commencement, have often had occasion to deplore that, in certain circles of society, and those by no means few nor small, all active and systematic effort for promoting the severance of the Church from the State, and the consequent liberation of religion from the corrupting and controlling influences of Government, has been met and counteracted by mere authority. It needs not that we specify the classes by whom that authority has most usually been exercised. The effect has always been the same. A condemnatory *ipse dixit*, uttered with a decision approaching to violence, unsupported by careful reasoning, often directed against personal character, and generally glowing with more of anger than the case would seem to justify, was the sort of missile with which, in its earliest infancy, the organization was everywhere assailed. Not the obvious justice of the sentence pronounced, but the station, character, reputation, and influence of him who pronounced it, gave force to the blows thus aimed against our proceedings. The oracle had spoken, and every votary must bow in profound submission. It was clear enough to the far-seeing that this could not last for ever. Authority may have the advantage over reason in the first brush or two between them. It is a giant, but it cannot stand against an army. A marshalled host of arguments daily increasing in numbers will prove, in the long run, more than a match for the most despotic authority, whether in the world or in the church. The history of the Anti-state-church Association illustrates this remark. We wish we could get near some of the parties who have been wont to rely upon their authority over other minds, in their antagonism to this cause—that we could put them for once in our position, whence to survey their own prospects. We wish we could bring before them the doubts and suspicions which their own conduct is begetting in the bosoms of their warmest friends—the startling conclusion towards which the latter are looking—the inward dissatisfaction which they have long felt and are beginning to express—the diminution of respect which they evince, not without evident reluctance—and the high probability, the moral certainty, which this unhappy state of things infers, that ere long, authority will find itself wholly set at nought, its spell broken, and its charm dissolved. We speak what we know. Our conclusions are gathered up from a very wide range of observation—and we could devoutly wish that many who now laugh at their danger, would take friendly warning, and calculate for themselves how long an influential name is likely to stand against an ever-augmenting force of facts and reasons.

There is another and a yet wider and more promising sphere in which the steady and continuous operations of the society are beginning to tell. Within the pale of the Establishment, instances are not wholly wanting, and are becoming more frequent, of thought awakened in reference to the merits or demerits of the compulsory system. Perpetual iteration is at length driving into the minds of thoughtful churchmen the conviction, that the present warfare is wholly sectarian—that the Association levels its artillery against nothing which is essential to the distinctive character or complete integrity of churches, as such—that it favours nobody's *ism*—pronounces for or against no theological articles of faith—no forms of worship—no systems of ecclesiastical despotism. And this conviction, as slowly but surely it forces for itself an entrance into the mind, wonderfully changes the

aspect of the whole question in dispute. Voluntaryism is no such novelty in the Church of England, as to startle prejudice on its first appearance as a theory. In all our great towns it has made itself familiarly known, within the Establishment, as a fact. It has been tried, and has answered. Its freedom, and its efficiency, have been extensively proved. It has raised many and splendid edifices. It is maintaining useful and devoted clergymen. Side by side with the State system, willingness is doing its work—and there, where it is most largely resorted to, there is most of life, activity, progress, and peace. The British Anti-state-church Association, pointing to these results, and commanding them as in strict keeping with its ultimate objects, is gradually gaining inquirers, even in this school—and anticipates, before the lapse of many years, a body of supporters from this quarter, whose moral influence will outweigh all other influence which it may have to command. As events develop the inevitable tendencies of the Establishment principle, these men will, to save religion, throw overboard their last scruples, and unite in demanding for Christianity, that she shall be suffered to go free.

We gather hope and confidence, moreover, from the character of the opposition which in some cases is offered to the efforts of the society. The *John Bull*, the organ of a large section of the clergy, growls out, ever and anon, abusive tirades—and our columns this week exhibit the desperate lengths to which violent partisans will go, to suppress, if possible, a discussion which they fear. The public meeting at Liverpool, a report of which we have given below, demonstrates the extent to which the progress of the Association has told upon the minds of unreasoning opponents. Such a scene is seldom witnessed in Great Britain, in our day. Free utterance of opinion prevented by brute force—appeals to the understanding replied to by senseless vociferations and rounds of "Kentish fire"—decency outraged by organized and half-topsy "defenders of the faith"—confusion, uproar, personal insult, mingled with coarse ebullitions of a low-minded profanity—these are weapons which, however disagreeable to encounter, do more service to the truth they attempt to stifle, than the weightiest reasonings of its ablest friends. They betoken, in those who resort to them, a consciousness of insecurity. This is the smoke, blinding and choking, which proves fire to be somewhere present. The amount of the resistance may be taken as the measure of force which is expended in the blow. There will probably be more of this as the Association gets stronger. Liverpool has begun the work of violence—and, in Liverpool, we doubt not, the cause of Anti-state-churchism will the more abundantly flourish.

### BRITISH ANTI-S-TATE-C H U R C H ASSOCIATION.

#### MEETING AT LIVERPOOL.

#### UPROAR AND DISGRACEFUL PROCEEDINGS.

(From our Correspondent.)

A public meeting was held in the Music-hall, Bold-street, Liverpool, on Tuesday evening, the 26th ult. when Dr. Price, Mr. Edward Miall, and Mr. Rhys Stephen, Baptist minister, attended as a deputation from the Executive Committee of the British Anti-state-church Association, to explain its constitution and objects, and to unite all who might be friendly thereto in rendering it their support.

Lawrence Heyworth, Esq., (a member of the Established Church,) presided at the request of the members of the Association, and the spacious hall was crowded at an early hour. A letter was read from Mr. Loxton, of Hanover Chapel (Independent minister), expressing his deep regret that a prior engagement prevented his attendance, and stating his hearty concurrence in the principles of the Association. Circulars had been specially forwarded to the Dissenting ministers, and were put into the hands of many who were zealous a few years ago in directing the public mind to the great and manifold evils, both secular and spiritual, which result from the union of Church and State. But, a knowledge of the modern tendencies of the ministerial and opulent Dissenters of the locality, and of their present avowed repugnance to a frank and open declaration of the grounds of their Dissent from the Establishment, gave rise to curious speculations as to the course they would adopt on this occasion, and made it a matter of little surprise that the deputation were supported by

so few of the latter, while of the ministers there were none with them.

Notwithstanding the notorious stigma resting upon Liverpool as a place where toleration is denied to the exercise of one of the noblest and most valued rights of Englishmen—fair and open discussion—by the rabid opposition of organized companies of Orangemen and "Operative Protestants," the deputation, acting under a generous confidence in British honour and in the power of truth, fearlessly made the "admission free." In the course of the afternoon, however, a surgeon, a member of Mr. M'Neile's congregation, had privately intimated that it need excite no surprise if he were present with four or five hundred of his "friends," to frustrate the objects of the meeting. And knowing the "militant" character of the said individual's "friends," an immediate application was made to the Commissioner of Police for protection from violence. The doors were no sooner opened than a rush was made to the platform by a host of the roughest-looking fellows we ever beheld, and from their conduct it soon became evident that they had been employed to disturb the order of the meeting. With some difficulty the keeper of the room induced them to clear the centre of the platform for those who had paid for the hall. Upon the front seats, and in other parts of the room, were considerable numbers of the same stamp, so arranged as to surround the bulk of the audience, which was favourable to the object of the meeting, as the voting subsequently proved. As the chairman and deputation advanced to the platform, they were received with clapping of hands and hisses. The Chairman, having opened the meeting with a brief and appropriate address, called upon Mr. Urquhart to move the first resolution; then commenced a course of factious interruptions and clamour, which, for indecency and outrage, baffles all description. Amongst the ringleaders we were pained to observe an elderly man of the name of Phillips, who was some time since shaken off at the Reform Office, whose revenge and imbecility have subsequently rendered him a fit and ready tool for the dirtiest work of the opponents of liberty, whether civil or religious. When his weak, effeminate voice became inaudible amidst the prevailing confusion, in order more effectually to drown the voice of the speaker he drew from his pocket an orange handkerchief, which he waved to the excited shouts of his admirers, succeeded by rounds of "Kentish fire," or, as it is locally designated, "Harbord's quadrille," from the name of a distinguished leader at the southern extremity of the town. With equal concern we regarded another well dressed individual who appeared as a leader of the rabble on the left of the chairman, who was once a member of a Dissenting church, but relapsed, and on this occasion presented, as a friend of the Establishment, with Phillips, a humiliating spectacle. They were attended also by a few young puppies who made an impudent attempt to unseat the chairman, and so to invest the reporters that even they should not be allowed to hear the speakers, under whom they sat. Their nefarious designs, however, were overruled; and, by dint of diligence on the part of reporters, energy and endurance on the part of the speakers, and passive resistance of outward pressure on the part of their surrounding friends, a report will go forth to the world, which, while it will show what measures are resorted to for the purposes of the Established Church, will carry tenfold power with its arguments, and will cover with infamy and disgrace the furious mob whose object it was to drown those arguments by noise and uproar, such as could not have been surpassed had Bedlam itself been let loose upon the meeting. The fairest opportunity was given for legitimate opposition; and after the first resolution was moved by Mr. Urquhart and seconded by Mr. Stephen, a working-man, who was uncourteously accosted on his appearance as a common informer, moved an amendment, which was seconded by Phillips, but lost by a great majority. Dr. Price vainly plied his kindest persuasives, after the equally unavailing, but sarcastic humour of Mr. Stephen; and Mr. Miall, observing this, addressed himself at once to the reporters. Some idea of the ruffianism of the State-church party may be gathered from the facts, that when the chairman summoned the police to his side for his protection, in his capacity of a magistrate, his authority was repudiated by some of the ringleaders, on the ground that he was a county, and not a borough magistrate; and when he read to the meeting a note from the lessees of the hall, in which they declared him responsible for any damage which might be done to the ceiling and premises below, from the stamping of the "Operative Protestants," they became more violent still, and the police were obliged to interfere. The whole was a

scene of confusion,—of conduct, violent, outrageous, uncourteous, and personally insulting. Hissing, groaning, crowing, mewing, shouting, cheering, clapping, and stamping were continued throughout the proceedings. After the meeting was dispersed, the hirelings of the Church and State party formed into a triangular order of procession, following one Summer and other leaders to a rendezvous, we presume, for the wages of their iniquity.

Another correspondent writes:—“Such was the excitement at the *Weekly News* office (which paper is published on Thursday), when it was known that the report of the meeting was inserted, that they were inundated for papers. The proprietors printed 8,000 copies, and, having used up their stock of stamps, were obliged to refuse applications for from 2,000 to 3,000 more copies. The committee of the British Anti-state-church Association in Liverpool, seeing the public were alive to the subject, and having the sympathies of their excellent advocate, the Rev. W. Brock, of Norwich, who was then in Liverpool, he kindly engaged to deliver a lecture on ‘The ultimate design contemplated by the Evangelical Dissenters in relation to the State-church,’ in the same place, this day (Wednesday). This lecture will, no doubt, be followed by like means to inform the public on the injustice of State systems of religion; thus showing that the unprincipled measures used by the Church party to crush the truth only shows that truth, like the sun’s light, may be hidden, but not extinguished.”

We obtain the subjoined account from the *Liverpool Mercury*, published on Friday, and the *Weekly News*: chiefly from the former.

The Chairman (LAWRENCE HEYWORTH, Esq.) opened the meeting—

He said that the subject which would claim their attention that evening was one of vast importance; but, at the same time, it was in allusion to one of those institutions to which a great mass of their fellow-countrymen were sincerely attached. Notwithstanding that, he thought there might be arguments advanced which would tend to depreciate the value of that institution; yet at the same time he did hope that those individuals—if there were any such there—who were very passionately attached to Church and State, would, even for the benefit of their own judgment, listen calmly and dispassionately to the various statements which would be made, in order that they might be furnished with arguments of their own, substantially to oppose the arguments they might hear advanced that evening. If they were the real friends of the Establishment they would follow that course of proceeding, for they could reflect in their cooler moments on what was said; and if they could discover any discrepancy, they would refute it at another meeting which they might think proper to call. He (the Chairman) should not be reluctant to attend. He again called on such parties to show themselves Christians, to act like Britons, and give all fair play. If they had a spark of British feeling within them, they would be quiet and peaceful.

The CHAIRMAN then called upon Mr. Urquhart, and as soon as he stepped forward, Mr. F. Jones, a young man employed at the Custom-house, and another person, also stepped upon the platform. Mr. W. S. Phillips, another ringleader, then gave the word, and the disorderly conduct was commenced by the disturbers of the proceedings. The chairman having said something to Mr. Jones and the other person, they retired, and quietness was then restored for a few seconds.

Mr. URQUHART was then proceeding to say he regretted that a resolution had been put into his hands, when a person called out at the bottom of the room, “Who introduced Popery into the Workhouse?” which was followed by loud clapping of hand, cries of “Put him out,” tremendous uproar, and a cry, “Who is the chairman? make Mr. Horsfall chairman.”

Mr. JONES: That is my opposition. I was going to ask who elected the chairman [loud cries of “Nobody, nobody,” and uproar]. Take the sense of the meeting. This is not a private meeting; it is a public meeting [applause and uproar].

The CHAIRMAN asked to be heard, but his voice was drowned by hisses. [A voice: Move Mr. Horsfall in the chair.] I have appealed to you as Britons and as Christians to be quiet. You see certain individuals are intent on disorder [“No, no,” hisses and uproar]. There will be a body of police here directly, who will protect us [shouts of derision]. It has been asked why I am in the chair. This room is paid for by certain individuals, and they appointed me to take the chair. Are you honest? Let them declare themselves to be honest, if they dare, when they take possession of this room after it is paid for. Are they Christians? Let them show a Christian spirit [uproar]. Are these men supporters of the Church of England? [applause, hisses, laughter, and cheers]. Then, indeed, the Church is doomed [uproar].

Dr. PRICE: Free speech and unfettered discussion—let that be the motto of our meeting. In order to that, let us have something like decorum. This room is taken by a society, and a meeting is called of the members and friends of that society [read the placard]. When a resolution is put, let any amendment which is proposed be submitted to the meeting by any gentleman willing to give his name, and then let a Liverpool audience say whether with the amendment or resolution its judgment goes; but let us have something like order. This appeal seemed to operate for a few moments, and

Mr. URQUHART read the first resolution, which was as follows:—

“That this meeting holds that the principles of the British Anti-state-church Association lie at the basis of all great views of civil and religious liberty—that, with regard to religious faith and practice, man is accountable to God alone [applause], and that the support of religious institutions by the State (involving in its very nature resort to compulsion) is at variance with the law of God and the responsibilities of man” [applause]. [Confusion here followed, during which Mr. Phillips, who was especially violent, was told by some one near him that if he did not behave better he would be turned out. Mr. Phillips replied, “Turn me out if you dare; you’re a set of blackguards.”] Mr. Urquhart continued by saying that all State systems of religion were bad in themselves, because they were at variance with the word of God, and produced evil [“Turn him out!”—“Prove it from that book!”] The State-church system of England, what was it? It was an invention of the State. Its predecessor would have occupied its station to the present hour, if the Pope had been satisfied to have granted licentious indulgences to that wicked monarch, Henry the Eighth. It had been a grievance for centuries, and was now taking from the labouring industry of the country eight or nine millions a year, and producing thereby an amount of want and misery [hear, hear]. A Parliamentary state religion in this country was called and known in England by the name of the Church of England [“John Bull, turn round this way,” with loud applause, laughter, and clapping of hands]. It was called the Church of England, but its constitution and practice was as much at variance with the church of Christ as what God was to Mammon [hisses, and cries of “Prove it—it’s false,” “Turn John Bull out,” “Give us Scripture for it,” “Shame, shame,” “Turn him out.”] [Mr. Simmons, the Orange-

man, and ex-policeman, here called out at the top of his voice “Friends, allow fair discussion. You shall hear my amendment, and let us have fair discussion.” Applause.] He (Mr. Urquhart) repeated what he had said, that the Church of England and the Church of Christ were as far opposed as God and Mammon—and it took immense sums of money from the people by virtue of the law. It affected every class, both rich and poor, bond and free. Wherever British manufactures or enterprise were carried, the sword went along with it. [Mr. Phillips: “That has nothing to do with it.”] It was injurious to commerce, and opposed to the word of God, whether they looked to the Old or New Testament dispensation. A State-church was injurious to the exercise of that principle of peace and good-will to men which should be inculcated amongst all parties. [“Turn out John Bull!” loud laughter.] Under such circumstances they were bound to support the principles of the Anti-state-church Association. [Applause.] “We don’t understand you at all.” A Voice: “We are not bound to find you in brains.”] Mr. Urquhart then proceeded to say, that he, and those who thought with him, were merely showing their principles, and their opposition to spiritual maintenance in high places. [Cries of “Why did you not learn it better?” “How long did you go to school?”] Religion should never be enforced by Acts of Parliament, as such a course deadened the moral responsibilities of man, and worked the greatest evils that could befall mankind. He considered it a great object that the Anti-state-church Association had been established, and rejoiced that they had a deputation from that body of highly-respectable gentlemen—including Dr. Price and the Rev. Mr. Miall—men who would fully develop his views, and show that such an institution was one of the great bulwarks of the religious liberties of the people [loud applause and hisses].

The Rev. RHYNS STEPHEN, of Manchester, came forward to second the resolution, and was met by a burst of uproar. One man cried out, “Send him to Chester Castle again.” Another answered, “It is not the same.” Mr. Stephen proceeded—

I have not been accustomed, Mr. Chairman and friends—not at all accustomed to be frightened. I can assure my friends on my right that they have not frightened me at all [laughter and applause]. I am one of the “sons of the mountain” who are never afraid [uproar]. I should expect more common sense and more good neighbourly feeling in Liverpool than some individuals here seem inclined to show [shouts of derision]. I know that the mass of this congregation—[“The police are coming.”] Laughter]. If any man in this room supposes he can prevent me from saying my say [hisses] by any remark of that sort, he is sadly mistaken [cheers]. I was saying I should have expected from a congregation in Liverpool, of any kind, where you have Saxon, Scotch, Irish, and Welsh, mingled up together in the town [“Have you no Dutch?”]—should have said beforehand that they would always hear a man. Hear me first and strike me afterwards. [This sally appeared to tickle the fancies of the supporters of Church and State mightily, and they applauded to the echo.] Now, will you be kind enough to hear me first? [Yes, yes.] Well, listen, that you may hear. [That is not your own language.] Two men can never speak at a time. [They are fish-women that interrupt you.] They are women in men’s clothes [applause]. They are not real women, because they will always hear [uproar]. Hear, and then strike me [applause]. Now, then, listen, that you may hear. I beg leave to second the resolution. [Well, that is enough.] It is very easy for a man in a crowd, whom nobody knows, to talk [uproar]. The more noise you make, the longer you will be here. [What is your pay?] I have some capital things to say to you if you will be quiet. Let me tell you why I second the motion [great uproar, followed by the Kentish fire, cries of “Church and State—no surrender—no infidelity—three cheers for the Church and Constitution—three cheers for the Queen,” and again the Kentish fire].

Mr. SIMMONDS stated, that after the resolution had been seconded, he should propose an amendment. He added, “We cannot go from this meeting with honour and with clean hands unless we give all sides a fair hearing” [hear, hear].

The CHAIRMAN: The parties who disturb the meeting will read a lecture to the detriment of the Church of England greater than anything that could be said by any of the speakers [hisses].

The Rev. Mr. STEPHEN—

Will you have the goodness to listen to me now? [yes, yes.] I am a very good-natured man, and will talk very kindly to you [“Mind the Church.” Great interruption]. I have gone on in vain [Go home, then]. I believe any Englishman can go where he likes [Mr. Phillips: “You are going to pull down the Church—the Established Church.”] Uproar. You won’t hear me—you are afraid [go on]. I have made five or six beginnings, but you will not hear me [go on]. Mr. Stephen then proceeded to say that he seconded the resolution: in the first place, because the Anti-state-church Association was formed by about 700 men assembled together in public meeting in London, and it was, to all intents and purposes, a fair and honourable body of men [no, no]. He meant fair and honourable as a British institution. They prided themselves on having the liberty to meet in public, and with their object distinctly declared to form an organization. Seven hundred had a right to meet, and seven hundred other men had a right to meet and form an organization for a contrary purpose [hear, hear]. They would never blame them; they would do them no harm; and he desired they would have the goodness in return not to do them harm. In the second place, he seconded the resolution, because he believed—[“What is your belief? We don’t understand you.”] He did not ask any gentleman there to understand him. He asked leave to speak, and they might understand, or not, as they liked [laughter and uproar]. He seconded the resolution, because he believed the fundamental principles of the Anti-state-church Association lay at the foundation of British liberties [“Of Infidelity!” and cries of “No, no!”] You (said he) say “No,”—say “No,” by all means; but will you allow me to say “Yes!” [No, no.] The speaker proceeded for some time further to address the meeting, subject to annoyances similar to those already narrated, and, of course, his observations could only be partially heard. In conclusion, he begged the meeting to give them a hearing, to beat them by votes if they chose, but not by anything unworthy of true-born Englishmen.

Mr. W. SIMMONDS, ex-policeman and Orangeman, then stepped forward, agreeably to his promise, to propose an amendment; and at the same moment Mr. Jones and another person offered their services in the same way. At length it was settled that Simmonds should proceed, and he did so amongst cries of “Simmonds the informer.” He was, however, allowed to proceed, with very little interruption, in a tirade against the Church of Rome. He took occasion, however, to say, he should like to see a more equal division of the things of this world, and he would like to see the hard-working clergy better paid, and the idle bishops worse paid. He proposed an amendment to the effect—

That we, the people of Liverpool, in public meeting assembled, are sensible of the beneficial effects which have resulted to all classes of Christians from the glorious Reformation, and that the only way to continue this Divine blessing is to rally round the present Church Establishment—to improve and strengthen it—believing it to be the most tolerant church in Christendom, and the only security against the re-acting of the drama of Smithfield.

Mr. W. S. PHILLIPS seconded the resolution, and when asked for his name by one of the persons in the room said, “I am very well known: I have done a great deal of good.”

Mr. JONES and other persons then expressed their determination to move a second amendment, but, after some persuasion by their friends, they withdrew it.

The CHAIRMAN then stated that a gentleman would speak to the amendment before it was put. This announcement was the precursor of another succession of shouting, &c., followed by the “Kentish fire,” which continued for some time. There were loud calls of “Divide, divide,” Mr. Phillips taking out an orange handkerchief and waving it about. After this scene had lasted for some time, the Chairman, finding it impossible to proceed, agreed to take the votes. He put the amendment first, and about one-fourth of the persons present held up their hands for it. The young

men appeared so delighted with this number that they appeared excited in the extreme, clapping, shouting, and finishing with a double rally of the Kentish fire. The chairman then put the question—“Against the amendment,” and the negative was carried by a large majority. As soon as he declared the result, there was another scene of uproar, with loud cries of “No, no.” The question for and against the original motion was then put, and carried in the affirmative by a large majority, much to the annoyance of the defenders of the Establishment, who repeated all their hideous noises.

Dr. THOMAS PRICE next came forward to address the meeting—

He said that he had never before stood up in a Liverpool audience, and he would not believe that they would refuse him a fair and attentive hearing [hear, hear]. He had too much confidence in them, notwithstanding their warmth, and those ebullitions of excited feelings which they had evinced that evening. He could not believe that they would refuse a fair hearing to the man who said that he was prepared to stand by the opponents of his own views in the fair and free advocacy of them. When Mr. Simmonds said to him in private that he intended to propose an amendment, he (Dr. Price) said to him, if he was not allowed a fair hearing in that room, that he would not remain one moment more in it [hear, hear]. Now, he only asked them in a calm and friendly manner to give him a hearing equally patient to that which they accorded to that gentleman. They had been told that the Church of England was the most tolerant church in Christendom. He, however, had been taken by the Church of England, and he had been placed beside pickpockets and thieves, thrown into prison, and brought up to the bar of a public court of justice, and taken before a police magistrate, by that very tolerant Church of England [very great confusion]. He would ask them if they could call that most tolerant conduct on the part of the most tolerant Church in Christendom? What would the Protestants—the Church and State Protestants—of Liverpool say if they were called upon to pay money for the supply of the Church of Rome? If they were required by law to pay a rate annually for the maintenance of papist worship, would they not believe it to be an outrage on their consciences, and declare immediately, as honest men, that nothing on earth would induce them to submit to it? Yes, he knew they would; and just let them change the argument and suppose themselves to be Dissenters. And, suppose that the Church of England came clothed in law to demand payment;—they might be wrong in their belief as Dissenters, but that did not alter the case so long as the Dissenters believed that they were right;—would they not act upon their convictions, and spurn the tyrannical—perhaps some people would call it tolerant—command from them? [cries of “No, no.”] He (Dr. Price) had merely acted on his solemn conviction of being in the right,—and for this heinous offence in the eyes of the most tolerant church on earth, he was dragged from the quiet sanctuary of his home to appear before police magistrate of London, and there sued for money to support the present Church establishment—an establishment which he in his soul believed to be wrong [“hear,” and uproar]. “Fair play is a jewel,” and all an Englishman wants is “a clear stage and no favour.” If they gave him that, he would ask no greater indulgence from them [“Hear, hear,” and “Go on, go on.”] He would place his arguments before them, and they could examine and analyze them; and if they were found to be true to the Word of God, they may rest assured that they would remain firm as the Word of God itself; and, though slowly and silently, ultimately they would make their way into the public mind. And such were the opinions entertained, he firmly believed, by the majority of that meeting; and, when the excitement of that night would have passed away, its effects would lead to the calm investigation of the question at issue between them. He was not a minister of religion; but, nevertheless, he came before them as one who was thoroughly convinced of the truth of a he stated; and he boldly and broadly declared, that he loved the free expression of public opinion, even when it was somewhat boisterous, for it gave a healthy tone to the feelings—. [The remainder of the sentence was lost in the noise and turmoil of the meeting.]

After describing the formation, subsequent proceedings, and objects of the British Anti-state-church Association, and referring to the cordiality with which they had been received in Scotland and Manchester, he continued—

They (the Dissenters) asked no man to pay for the support of their church. They did not ask any man to attend to the services of a religious altar which he did not approve of. They generously said, “Give unto others what we seek for ourselves”—perfect liberty of conscience [cheers]. They had pursued their course, and would continue to do so, no matter what crosses they might encounter. They might meet with opposition—they might encounter as rabid violence as they had that night been assailed with—they might meet, on some occasions, men bearing the English name, but wanting something of English feeling, who might refuse them a fair hearing; but still they would persevere—still they would continue to enforce the truth, and they would, he was certain, eventually triumph [cheers]. What their martyrs—men of noble names—had done, they would do, through good report and evil report. Such meetings might bawl and shout if they liked; but, through the medium of the gentlemen who sat before him—the reporters—he would be heard to the public. Though their medium sentiments would be carried to them, even to their own firesides, which they contemptuously rejected—aye, and at some other time when they again visited them—for visit them again they would—they would be welcomed amongst them by the supporters of that true Protestantism which owns no earthly authority [cheers and confusion]. He had a message to tell them, and he would tell it them, should he remain for that purpose till morning; therefore, it was of no use for them to be creating disturbance. The society which he represented had nothing to do with their church as a spiritual body. It was not opposed to the Episcopal Church as a spiritual organization any more than it was opposed to any other church—or to Episcopacy more than any other form of church government. So far as their society was concerned, they did not interfere with the form of prayer used in any church. It was a society formed of Protestants, Presbyterians, and all classes of Dissenters, and the only object that bound them together was their desire to break the connexion which existed between the Church and State of Great Britain [cheers and confusion]. What, he would ask them, would they think of a class of persons who voluntarily taxed themselves to the amount of many millions in order to support a system of religion about which they did not care a fig? [uproar and Kentish fire, in the midst of which the police were obliged to be brought in to protect the chairman. One of the disturbers having been given in charge, peace was restored, when]

The CHAIRMAN: We claim the protection of the gentlemen of the press. We hope they will let the people of England know all that has been said and done here to-night. I know they will; and, therefore, there is no use in attempting to put down the meeting by drowning the voice of the speaker.

Dr. PRICE continued: He hoped that the Liverpool people would bear in mind that the question which they were then agitating was a national question; that it was one in which the people at large, and the poor in particular, were deeply interested. Why, they paid for the support of the Church of England from £8,000,000 to £10,000,000 per annum. The English people paid all this money through the medium of tithes, and other ecclesiastical property, which was their own, which they were entitled to resume, after paying a due regard to vested or life interest. The Church of England received the whole of this property by an Act of Parliament, from the Church of Rome. They took it through the Parliament, and they thereby recognized the right of Parliament to deal with it. They admitted the property belonged to the people, by receiving it through the medium of the Legislature; and, when the public mind would be somewhat more enlightened, they would have this property placed to objects of general utility, instead of being swallowed up by a greedy aristocracy. He would now leave them, and he hoped that, when they met again, they (the meeting) would be in better temper—at least, those few in the room who were opposed to his views. Dr. Price then resumed his seat.

Mr. MIALL was then introduced to the meeting by the chairman. His rising was a signal for the renewal of hisses, clapping of hands, shouting, and the Kentish fire. Finding it in vain to expect a peaceful hearing, he took up his position near the reporters, and addressed himself to them, and through them of course to the public at large. As soon as he commenced there was another outburst from the supporters of the Church

of England, and it was some time before his voice, although he stood near the reporters, could be heard distinctly by them—

He said he only hoped, that those individuals who called themselves the representatives of the Church of England would give him a fair hearing [hisses: "Robbing Peter to pay Paul"]. It had been said ["You're a Scotch Radical." Shouts of derision. "Aye, you're a bad lot;"] and other observations, followed by uproar, which drowned the conclusion of the sentence.] Pointing to the disturbers on his right, he said their conduct was a fair specimen of the tender mercies under which men came when they placed themselves within the power of the Church [hear, hear]. He had heard before, many times, that the Church of England was the most tolerant one. He asked, Who spoke of toleration to an Englishman and a Christian? He chose to walk in the light of the sun. Who presumed to tolerate him [applause]? He chose to enjoy the mercies of God, when rained down from heaven, without being beholden to any man or body of men; and he chose to utter the sentiments that had been put into his heart, without asking permission of any civil or ecclesiastical power [cheers]. If there were any species of slavery he abhorred above all others, it was that of the poor man who placed himself at the beck of the rich in order to accomplish their objects [great uproar]. It was quite clear it was not intended they should have a fair meeting that night. It was quite evident that those who had come there as the representatives of the Church were not in a condition to receive or to listen to any appeals made to their understanding [cheers and hisses]. They could put them down by their voices and votes, but if they had the smallest pretensions to the name of men—to Christian men—let them listen to the arguments on both sides the question [cheers]. They came there that they might speak their minds honestly as to what they regarded as evil in the present system—a system which awfully misrepresented the spirit of Christianity [great uproar]. He asked them whether that noise was to be taken as a specimen of the religion produced by the preaching of Mr. M'Neile? [loud cheers.] He asked them if that was the way in which clergymen of boasted evangelical sentiments trained up their hearers to support truth? [hisses, and cries of "Shame."] He asked them whether, if it were, it was in any way consistent with the spirit of that Christianity by which they professed to be actuated [cheers and hisses]. They came there in order to meet the people of Liverpool—the Dissenters of Liverpool more especially—in support of the fundamental principles of the British Anti-state-church Association, which they were fully convinced were to be found embodied in the maxim of their Divine Master—"Do unto others as ye would they should do unto you" [hear, hear]. They had deeply impressed on their minds a sense of the evils, civil, social, and spiritual—resulting from the subjection of religion to the civil power. They had seen through the whole page of history that that connexion had done nothing but enervate the power of Christianity, and exalt the pretensions of man. He made an appeal to the working classes of this country, and asked if the tyrannical, oppressive, and grasping spirit of every ecclesiastical establishment—[Here the speaker's voice was drowned by the uproar.] In every rural district of the empire had they not found that acts of progressive reform, whether intellectual, moral, or political, had been always hindered by the opposition of the State-church; and was there ever any great privilege proposed for the working man that was not incessantly objected to by the State-church? Wherever she prevailed, was there not dense ignorance and gross immorality? [cheers, followed by uproar]. In all ages of their history, since the establishment of Christianity in these realms, where the Church had been most triumphant, and when Dissenters had never rubbed against it, and by their friction produced some liveliness of Christian principles, the people had exhibited in their conduct a debased immorality, corruption, and profligacy. Throughout the whole history of this establishment it had been found to be an instrument in the hands of the aristocracy for accomplishing their own selfish purposes [uproar, followed by three cheers for Church and State]. It was thus that they debased the intelligence of the working men. It was thus that they used the brute force of the country as the weapon for cutting their way to their ends. It was thus, after having deprived the human mind of reason, they adopted the people as slaves, and wielded them against the diffusion of light in every part of the world [cheers]. Working men standing up for the instrumentality which trampled on their understanding, and never consulted their will—the spirit of whose operation was the spirit which animated all acts of Parliament—the spirit of compulsion—[three cheers for Lord G. Bentinck, followed by uproar]—the penalties attaching to which, although now, by the progress of light amongst us, are not quite so heavy as they once were, still are hard to be borne! They came not there to quarrel with any man's creed. They were not there to attack any man's person—they would not willingly violate any man's liberty—they would not reflect on any man's personal reputation. They asked only that all truth might stand on the same level, and let it stand or fall by its vital and essential merits. They asked only that all who preached the name of Jesus Christ, and who professed his gospel, would, at all events, remember the spirit of the apostle when he said, "I have coveted no man's silver, or gold, or apparel" [cheers]. He there declared there was nothing which had tended more thoroughly to fill the land with infidelity than false representations of Christianity prevailing in consequence of the union of the Church with the State [cheers]. When men professing godliness grasped the sword of the magistrate in order to enforce support for themselves and sustenance for the institution they professed to uphold [imitation of a cock crowing]—they did disgrace to religion—they exhibited it in an odious light to the minds of their fellow-men, and on them must be the responsibility if the poor man, confounding the system which oppresses with the religion which is professed, declares that both are merely priesthood, devised for tyrannizing over the people [cheers and hisses, and cries of "You are infidels!"]

After dwelling at some length upon the manifold evils springing from church establishment, Mr. Miall continued—

This is the establishment which, in its mercy towards free opinion, had visited him (Mr. Miall) more than once with the police-officer, because he could not conscientiously support the religion which she professed. Now, they asked only that the powers which she possessed to trample on their rights be taken out of her hands. They asked only that the national property, now devoted to her maintenance, should be employed in secular and beneficial purposes. They asked nothing for themselves they would not give to others, and they were determined to agitate this question throughout the length and breadth of the land until this end was accomplished, and religion was set finally free [loud cheers, followed by uproar, and cries of "Give up—give the poor a cheap loaf," &c.] They had been exceedingly anxious, throughout the discussion of this question, from the commencement, to maintain a calmness and dignity of language calculated to illustrate the sacredness of the cause which they sought to enforce on their audiences, and if, in the heat excited by opposition not the most reasonable [hear], they might have expressed themselves somewhat more severely than in their cooler moments they could justify, they thought they were perfectly excused by the occasion—the interruption thrown before them, and the constant excitement which had been maintained since that meeting commenced. But, substantially, he would offer to meet Mr. M'Neile—[The mention of this name was the commencement of another scene of confusion, during which some of his friends hissed and others cheered, but at last all joined in three cheers]—or any other member of the Establishment anxious for calm discussion in a public meeting—to compare notes, and to say whose principles were most in accordance with the mind of Christ [cheers]. He asked him (Mr. M'Neile), if he were fully impressed with a sense of his own dignity, or the dignity of his office, not to send, or to sanction the sending there of a body of men whose voices could be raised to drown their appeals; but let him come like a man, and stand up there before the people ("Are you well paid?"), maintain his cause by fair argument, and leave it to the good sense of the community to determine which is right and which is wrong [cheers and uproar]. He never yet, in the course of his life, appealed to the good feeling and common sense of Englishmen that they did not respond. He was willing to leave this question in confidence with the working-classes to decide (cheers); not, be it remembered, in ignorance, but after fair investigation, each party taking pains to instruct the opposite, and leaving it to the force of vital principles to determine at last which should prevail—religion by force, or religion by persuasion (Mr. Phillips, and others of the opposition, "We do not want force-meat").

He appealed to Dissenters on behalf of the Anti-state-church Association—

He asked them not to listen to the whispers of false friends or the calumnies of concealed foes. He appealed boldly to all that they had written, to all that they published, to all they had uttered, and to all the acts they had performed, and he asked the Dissenters, in

that place, honestly to put their hands on what they deemed to be faulty, and if they could see it in the same light they should be anxious to get rid of it. All they wished was that they should listen with reason to what they might utter, and that when they had sentiments formed in their minds they would have the manliness to avow them. He had done so heretofore in Liverpool. This was not the first time he had been here. He was present at a meeting of the Young Men's Voluntary Association, and he hoped on some future occasion to be present again (cries of "No, no"). At all events, he thanked them for their kindness—he ought not to say toleration—with which they had listened to him. He commanded the few words which he had addressed to them to their calm deliberation when they retired home, and earnestly exhorted them that as they thought so they would act, and put forth the conviction of their consciences in the proceedings they might hereafter adopt.

Mr. Miall resumed his seat amidst applause, hisses, and uproar, which had been continued throughout the whole of his address.

The CHAIRMAN said there were other speakers to address the meeting, but, under existing circumstances, he thought it prudent not to protract the meeting any longer. He did hope those gentlemen who had addressed them would come forward again when another meeting took place, and which they hoped to have in a short time ("No, no," and applause), and that many of those who had attended that evening would come with minds free to listen, and conduct themselves as Englishmen and as Christians [groans and hisses]. If they did, he would take care that every liberty should be given them to express their sentiments as fully and freely as any individuals who should address the meeting. He was not angry with them; he pitied them [cheers and groans]. He was sorry for them; but he could not conceive they were acting under the impulse of their own judgment; and, if they were, he very much differed with them in opinion as to the character of Englishmen. If, however, they were acting under the influence of other parties, he could excuse them on such an occasion. He felt sure that, when they went home, and reflected on the disorder and confusion which had been exhibited that evening, they would be sorry, and feel that they had disgraced the English character, and their conscience would reprove them. And when the matter came to be fully discussed, they would be ashamed of the steps they had taken that evening, and find, also, that such a course would be entirely fruitless; for, though many at the meeting had not heard every word, yet there were thousands upon thousands who would read the report in the newspapers [cheers and hisses, accompanied with shouts of "Turn him out!"].

On the motion of Dr. PRICE, a vote of thanks was proposed to the chairman, and carried amidst great uproar.

Three cheers were then given for "the Queen," "Church and State;" and "the Rev. Jonathan Brooks," closing with the Kentish fire.

The gentlemen who occupied the front seats on the platform having retired, several men, big with speech, mounted the organ case, and attempted to address the audience amidst great confusion. One of them said he was a Dissenter at one time, but now attended St. Mark's Church. If Mr. M'Neile had been there, the interruption would not have been so great as it was. Another person, in light clothes, who refused to give his name, but seemed to be known to some by the cognomen of the "drunken postman," next commenced an oration, but his eloquence was curtailed by the extinguishing of the lights, and he and his friends rushed to the door, knocking over the forms in their progress. When they reached the street they resumed their cheers, but as rain was falling heavily their ardour was somewhat damped, and soon all was quietness, where before disorder, for the worst of purposes—the stopping of free discussion—had prevailed.

#### MEETING AT ROCHDALE.

A public meeting of the inhabitants of Rochdale, under the auspices of the Anti-state-church Association, was held on Friday in the public hall, for the purpose of promoting the objects of the society. The meeting was not only a very numerous, but a highly respectable one. The large room was comfortably filled, both above and below, so that there must have been present about 500 or 600 persons. John Petrie, Esq., occupied the chair, and he was supported by Oliver Ornrod, Esq.; Jacob Bright, jun., Esq.; Henry Kelsall, Esq.; John Hagan, Esq.; Edward Taylor, Esq.; Rev. Mr. Hallatt, Rev. J. Townhead, and Rev. Mr. Pattison. The chairman having opened the proceedings, the first motion was proposed by the Rev. George Hallatt. It was seconded by Dr. Price, the editor of the *Eclectic Review*, at considerable length, and his speech was characterized by clear statement, powerful argument, and great eloquence. He adverted to the charge, that the Dissenters were, in agitating this question, acting a political part; he contended that they had a right to interfere in political questions, and said that the Dissenters must show a more bold, honest, and masculine spirit, in these days, than they had been wont to do, mixing, however, charity and the amenities of life with that boldness. He granted that, in seeking the disconnection of the Church and the State, they had a formidable array of power against them, including the serried ranks of the aristocracy; but, with honesty in his heart, and truth in his right hand, he, relying upon God, would bid defiance to all opposition [great cheering]. A mighty truth like that promulgated by them must triumph. Henry Kelsall, Esq., moved the second resolution, and showed, by reference to the oath taken by justices of the peace, and to the opinion of an eminent counsel, that he and other magistrates were justified, in their private capacity, in doing all they could to separate the Church from the State. The Dissenters asked for perfect religious equality; they wanted nothing more, and they would be content with nothing less. Edward Miall, Esq., editor of the *Nonconformist*, seconded the motion in a powerful speech, which was loudly applauded. Speaking of toleration, he said that he claimed the right, without being indebted to any power in the world, to worship God according to his conscience. If he did not claim this right, he should be resigning, at the feet of man, one of the holiest and sublimest prerogatives of human nature. Alluding to the oft-repeated cry, "The church is in danger," he asked how God's church could possibly be in danger? The externals of

a church might be in danger; and it was the knowledge of this fact that elicited this cry. If there was not an annual revenue of seven millions of money—if there were not places, and dignity, and powers, and influence of a worldly character, together with a system of patronage dispensed by the aristocracy, and pay often received without work, there would be no cry of "The church is in danger." The resolutions were carried unanimously, and the meeting was addressed by several other gentlemen, in excellent speeches.—*Manchester Examiner.*

#### THE "UNHALLOWED EARTH" OF THE GOSPEL PROPAGATION SOCIETY, AND THE CONSECRATED EARTH OF THE LATE REV. S. JONES, OF LLANGAN.

(From a Correspondent.)

"More than one hundred additional clergy are wanted to meet the constant increase of immigration and extension of settlements in Canada West. In the Bay of Placentia, there is but one clergyman for 150 miles of stormy coast. In New Brunswick, in short, throughout the colonies, there is an urgent want of more missionaries; and, for lack of them, children grow up unbaptized and uneducated—public worship is neglected—the Lord's-day profaned—the ordinance of marriage disregarded—the sick are unvisited—the vicious unreclaimed—and many and many a settler who went out from a Christian country with the fear and love of God in his heart, is, through the absence of all public means of grace, suffered to lapse into forgetfulness of his God and Saviour, and, after a life of animal labour and indulgence, is laid in *unhallowed earth, without a prayer*, perhaps without a hope, by his children and neighbours, who are left to follow in the same cheerless course."—*Gospel Propagation Society's Report*, 1846.

With such regrets for the interment of our expatriated countrymen in *unhallowed earth*, no surprise can be felt that the missionaries employed by the society itself, "openly assert and disseminate that none but episcopally ordained persons are lawful ministers of Christ, and that the ministrations of all others are void and nugatory" (Report of the Bengal Auxiliary to the London Missionary Society); and that in Calcutta and its vicinity many of the converts of the Baptist Missionary Society had been drawn aside through the influence and misrepresentations of the agents of this Society. And greatly, indeed, was it to the honour of the Bishop of Calcutta, in his strict adhesion to evangelical truth, during his last visit, faithfully to tell its assembled members, that "it was spreading a deep moral blight over the field of missionary operations in India, which, if not counteracted, might prove fatal to the progress of truth in our Indian empire." Deeply, indeed, is it to be regretted, that so large an income as £62,759 is reported in the year, and also £34,398 produce of the Queen's letter, total £97,157. Surely it behoves the Christian public to look more vigilantly into the spirit of the agencies employed. Greatly would we rejoice if the holy head of the late T. Jones, of Llangan, influenced the proceedings of the Board, and of whom it is said, that his heartfelt solicitude to preach Christ crucified, led him to preach in places deemed irregular by his diocesan, and when sent for to answer the charge that he preached in *unconsecrated places*, replied, "My lord Bishop, this is quite out of my power to do, for, from the moment my beloved Master touched our world with his feet, every part of it was consecrated to his service, and no other consecration is required, since He expressly declared, when He issued his command to his apostles, to go into all the world, that he would be with them always and in every place."

#### THE POOR MAN'S CHURCH!.

(From the *Western Times*.)

At the Castle of Exeter, this (Friday) morning, before C. Gordon, M. Bere, J. S. Pitman, and C. Shirreff, Esqrs., and the Rev. H. Strangways, a number of church-rate summonses, for Heavitree, were heard.

George Peter Reed, of Heavitree, was ordered to pay 10d. rate, and 5s. expenses. He said he had not seen the rate ticket; and refused to pay till the Bench threatened to distrain.

James Grant was also summoned; and an order made for 1s. 3d. the rate, and 3s. 6d. expenses.

Mary Stevenson, a Quakeress, had been summoned; but would neither pay nor answer the summons. The Chairman said—"Oh, she's a Quaker—they won't pay;" and a warrant was granted for 12s. 6d. and expenses.

William Milford, of Wonford, said it had not been demanded, but he was willing to pay it. Order made for 3s. and the rate 10d.

Henry Hookins said he had been ordered by his landlord not to pay it—Mr. Pidsley would not allow it again to him. The order was made as in the other cases, for 6s. 4d. altogether.

Robert Wilcocks—His wife answered, and promised to pay Mr. Godfrey, the collector, 3s. 10d.; but it was "more than half her husband's wages."

The wife of a labourer, called Russell, said "she would try to do it; but she had five little children, and did not know how." She was threatened with increased costs and a warrant.

Richard Taylor—His wife said she could not pay it. Mr. Gordon told her that a warrant would be issued, and the witnesses sworn, and goods taken, which expenses, with auctioneer, &c., would come to 7s. or 8s. Mr. Garratt did not allow it on their rent. At length she promised to pay it in three instalments.

Thomas Manning was not able. His wife died the other day in child-bed, leaving three infant children; and he owed a twelvemonth's rate, and had not 5s. worth of goods in his house. Mr. N. Tuckett confirmed his statement, saying it was "a poor man who had suffered a great deal, and therefore not a proper victim for the purpose." He was ordered to pay 7s. 10d., but said he could as soon pay £7, and could not see his children starve. Mr. Tuckett paid it with "a double franc French money—he would not keep any more English money—he could not keep it in this country."

Robert Delbridge—His wife promised to pay 2s. in a fortnight, and paid 2s. 8d. now.

Henry Sparks was called—"Now comes the last: in this I shall want the constable, I suppose," said Mr.

Gordon. The constable proved the summons. Mr. Pitman "supposed the answer was, that his conscience would not allow him to pay." The case being proved, the warrant was issued for distraint. The defendant is a member of the Society of Friends.

Thomas Wilson—His wife said, "I cannot pay." Mr. Pitman said:—"It's no good to say *cannot* here." "Be I to starve my children?" said she. "They have not a shoe to their foot." Mr. Drake and the constable withdrew the costs, and she promised to pay the 10d. rate.

Mr. N. Tuckett said this was "Mother Church kicking her own bowels out." It is worthy of notice, that they tied up the Testament with a piece of string before they swore the churchwarden; they could not face its open pages in such a proceeding.

#### ECCLESIASTICAL ENCROACHMENTS IN VAN DIEMEN'S LAND.

A Hobart Town correspondent calls the especial attention of the British public to the subjoined petition against the power sought to be obtained by the Bishop of Tasmania, who is described as a rank Puseyite, and a man of boundless ambition. The prelate, finding his authority disregarded in certain quarters, has come to England with the object of inducing Government to confer upon the colony the blessings of our Ecclesiastical Courts:—

*To her Most Gracious Majesty Victoria, Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, the Petition of the Ministers and Missionaries of the Independent or Congregational Churches of Van Diemen's Land,*

Humbly Sheweth,  
That your Majesty's petitioners emigrated to this colony for the purpose of promoting the moral and religious welfare of their fellow-countrymen.

That while they claim no support from the Public Treasury, which is accorded to all denominations in this colony, they beg to present the following statement, as evidence that their labours have not been in vain. Within a period of fifteen years they have secured the erection of fourteen places of worship, and the establishment of twelve Sabbath-schools, in which above seven hundred children are gratuitously taught by eighty-seven members of their respective churches and congregations.

That your Majesty's petitioners have not confined their exertions for the extension of true religion and morality to the free inhabitants of the colony, but have also directed their attention to the improvement of the convict population, have gratuitously supplied religious instruction, either stately or occasionally, at road-stations, in hospitals, and at other places, with the full sanction of the local authorities. That these labours were continued until your Majesty's Government directed that the prisoners should receive religious instruction from such persons only as belong to the Anglican, Wesleyan, or Roman Catholic Church.

That your Majesty's petitioners would respectfully call your Majesty's attention to certain clauses of the Letters Patent issued to Francis Russell Nixon, D.D., dated the twenty-first day of August, in the sixth year of your Majesty's reign, which provide "that (he) the said Bishop of Tasmania and his successors, may exercise jurisdiction, spiritual and ecclesiastical, within the said cathedral Church (St. David's), and throughout the said diocese, according to the Ecclesiastical laws now in force in England; and, moreover, that the said Bishop of Tasmania and his successors, may exercise and enjoy full power and authority to inquire, by witnesses sworn in due form of law, relative to the morals and behaviour of his clergy,—thus granting to him power to summon your Majesty's petitioners, and the members of their respective churches, as witnesses. That while your Majesty's petitioners were satisfied that no such ecclesiastical jurisdiction was legally conveyed by the said Letters Patent, and therefore could not be exercised, they refrained from complaining of this, and other invidious distinctions, in favour of a particular religious denomination. But since your Majesty's petitioners have understood that Dr. Nixon is proceeding to England with a view to obtain the establishment in this colony of an Ecclesiastical Court, with the power to compel your Majesty's petitioners, and the members of their respective churches, to appear as witnesses in matters of discipline between himself and his clergy, they can no longer be silent.

That your Majesty's petitioners maintain the most devoted attachment to your Majesty's royal person and Government; but they would humbly represent, that they cannot conscientiously recognize any ecclesiastical jurisdiction over themselves, or the members of their respective churches, which may be based upon secular authority.

Your Majesty's petitioners would therefore humbly pray your Majesty to revoke so much of your Majesty's Letters Patent as confers ecclesiastical jurisdiction over themselves, or other religious denominations, and to withhold your Majesty's royal sanction from any measure calculated to interfere with that liberty of conscience accorded to all men by the Divine Founder of our holy religion.

And your Majesty's petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

(Signed by) F. MILLER, J. WEST,  
J. NISBET, J. BEAZLEY,  
W. WATERFIELD, W. JARRETT,  
C. PRICE, W. DAY.

**BRITISH ANTI-STATE-CHURCH ASSOCIATION.**—The Executive Committee have deputed their lecturer, Mr. John Kingsley, A.B., to visit the Principality of Wales, with a view to promote the objects of the Association. Arrangements are already made for lectures and meetings at Newport, Feb. 2nd, Pontypool, 3rd, Cardiff, 4th, Tredegar, 5th, and Swansea, 9th; others are in progress. Mr. Kingsley, on his return, proposes to lecture at Bath, and in other places which he may be invited to visit. In Leicestershire and Northamptonshire, Mr. Kingsley has already received invitations from seven or eight towns.

**THE NEW MOVEMENT.**—We are happy to learn that arrangements are in progress for re-organizing the Voluntary Dissenters of Glasgow and the West of Scotland, so as to prepare them for taking their part, in a combined and energetic manner, in the public movements of the day. This is a step in advance in the right direction, and will, we trust, be followed up by a course of vigorous Christian action.—*Glasgow Times.*

**HOPEFUL CHANGE OF OPINION.**—In the *Manchester Examiner*, of Saturday week, there appeared a remarkable letter, written by a clergyman of the Church of England, on the Anti-state-church question. After

noticing the fact, that the *Guardian* was attempting to excite hostility against Mr. Bright, by the stale outcry, "The Church is in danger;" the writer declares his belief that Mr. Bright is a much less dangerous enemy to the Church than Lord Lincoln—

I for one do not believe that Mr. Bright is an enemy to the Church, as a church, any more than he is an enemy to the religion which it was intended to teach; but in common with a host of thinking men, whose opinions are every day gaining ground, he conceives that the interests of religion generally, and of the Church in particular, suffer from the connexion which is maintained between the Church and the State. And because he is in earnest about correcting what he believes to be an hindrance to the advancement of religion and the well-being of the people, he scorns to speak enigmatically; his language, unlike that of too many men who say one thing and mean another, is honest and plain. And because it is honest and plain, it is therefore too strong for his opponents. It may be so; but it must be borne in mind, that deep-rooted abuses justify, if they do not require, the strongest language in order to their removal.

**THE EVANGELICAL ALLIANCE IN THE UNITED STATES.**—We observe, by the *New York Evangelist*, that several meetings have lately been held in that city and Brooklyn in connexion with the Evangelical Alliance, which have been attended by many of the delegates to this country. It is unnecessary to notice these meetings, except to mention that the slavery question was carefully avoided by the different speakers; and an announcement by Dr. Cox that it was intended to hold a meeting of the Alliance at Geneva in 1848, and in the United States in 1850, in the month of February.

**THE CANTON DE VAUD.**—The recent accounts respecting the progress and prospects of the Free Church in the Canton de Vaud have been much more encouraging than heretofore. Two or three facts, related in the last number of the *Avenir*, will afford some idea of the present state of things in that long-agitated canton. The year before last the number of catechumens confided to the care of the demissionary pastors had been inconsiderable: the parents had been afraid to send their children to be instructed. During the last year, however, the aspect of things has been changed for the better. One of the most important of the Free Churches already numbers no fewer than ninety catechumens, male and female. Various other churches count an equally large number in proportion to their extent. When two or three of the municipalities petitioned the Government to interdict the religious assemblies not connected with the National Church, they received the reply that they must respect these assemblies, because persecutions only destroyed the reputation of their country with foreign nations, and caused strangers to fly from the capital. In consequence of this reply, succeeding meetings in these localities have not been again disturbed. It appears that news are arriving from various quarters of the increase of the members of the Free Church. In one of the towns in which the oppression had been most violent, the number of members of the congregation had almost doubled during the past month. Still, however, there are penalties and persecutions of various kinds to which those are exposed who adhere to the Free Church.—*Witness*.

**ENDOWMENT OF THE CATHOLIC CLERGY.**—The clergy of Leicester and neighbourhood, we learn from the *Mercury*, assembled on Thursday, to the number of fifty, under the presidency of Archdeacon Bonney, to pass a solemn protest "against any further concessions to the members of the Roman Catholic religion, and against any endowment of that religion, or more grants to it for that purpose." It is unnecessary to describe the reasons urged by these State-supported monopolists. It was resolved to send a copy of the protest to each of the clergy in the archdeaconry, and to the members for the county. One of the clerical speakers said he considered that the grant to Maynooth was the death-blow to the Established Church of this country!—a pretty confession from a "descendant of the apostles."

**ANTIDOTE AGAINST DISSENT.**—A certain clerical gentleman, not a hundred miles from Great Gonerby, in order (as he thinks) to prevent the increase of Dissenters, is lending around "The Autobiography of a Dissenting Minister," a book written by one M. A. Gathercole, of no very enviable notoriety.—*Stamford Mercury*.

**A TROUBLESOME ADVERTISER FOR A WIFE.**—Mr. Austen, the proprietor of Peele's coffee-house in Fleet-street, has complained to the Lord Mayor of the annoyance to which he has been subjected by some person who advertises in the *Manchester Guardian*, and a London journal, for a wife, and directs answers to be sent to the coffee-house. No leave had been asked for making this reference. Shoals of letters had arrived from ladies, and the relatives of ladies, making overtures towards matrimony; all of which Mr. Austen had retained. A person had applied for the letters, and represented himself as the "legal gentleman" who had advertised, and he made use of threats to endeavour to obtain the epistles; but Mr. Austen refused to deliver them. The Lord Mayor said this exposure might answer Mr. Austen's purpose; if not, he might apply at the Mansion-house again for advice as to further proceedings.

**SERIOUS RIOTS IN SCOTLAND.**—The north of Scotland is nearly in a state of insurrection. At Burghhead, two vessels laden with meal for export were deprived of their cargoes. At Lossiemouth and Findhorn, several carts laden with oats were seized, and the captured victuals lodged in storehouses. The other places in the neighbourhood being in a similar state of excitement, forty soldiers from Fort George have been stationed at Elgin; and a company from Aberdeen has been sent to Port Gordon, into which the inhabitants of Keith, an inland town, are said to be pouring in large numbers. Passing over intermediate districts, the food-riot folly has also reached the south. In Stranraer, disturbance was raised because two meal-dealers would not sell their meal at 2s. 6d. per stone. Carrots and loaves were also stolen; but the promptitude of the authorities prevented the riots from reaching any great height.

#### THE MIRROR OF PARLIAMENT.

##### COST OF THE MEASURES FOR THE RELIEF OF IRELAND.

In the House of Commons on Thursday, Mr. ROEBUCK asked the First Lord of the Treasury, what was the sum which he considered would be necessary to carry into effect his proposed plans for relieving the present distress in Ireland, and in what mode he proposed to raise the sum needed?

Lord J. RUSSELL stated that the cost hitherto incurred in carrying out public works and the Poor Employment Act was £2,000,000. The commissariat account was a current account, and it was impossible to declare its amount now. If the present plans for relieving distress in Ireland were persevered in, we could not expect to spend less than £500,000 or £600,000 a month till the month of August. On the whole, he thought that, if the present plans did not cease, the whole cost of them would not be less than £7,000,000. By the plan now proposed by Government, a reduction would be made in the amount of that expense. How great that reduction might be he could not tell, for he could not say how soon the Presentment Act would cease, or the new plans would come into operation. For these reasons it must be seen that the moment was hardly come when he could state the exact amount of the expense to be incurred. He thought it better that he should not reply further to a question of which the answer was likely to pledge the Government to certain specific steps. He should, therefore, reserve his answer until the financial plan of the Government for the session was laid before the House. Whether that financial plan would be submitted to the House before or after the usual period, he was not at that time prepared to say.

Mr. ROEBUCK pressed for an answer respecting the cost of Lord John's proposals for buying land and lending money.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL replied, that Mr. Roebuck would be better able to form a judgment of the various plans when the bills should come before the House. With respect to the million appropriated by the Drainage Act, Government would merely alter the conditions on which the money was to be lent, not those of its future repayment, nor the interest to be paid, but only the purposes for which it was to be lent. With respect to the waste lands, the Government proposed, by the bill to be introduced, that one million should be advanced for their improvement. But with respect to most of these items he might mention, that it was considered that considerable outlay would be incurred at first, which would be eventually repaid.

On the same evening, Lord GEORGE BENTINCK gave notice, that on Wednesday next he would ask leave to bring in a bill to stimulate the prompt and profitable employment of the people by encouraging railroads in Ireland.

Mr. ROEBUCK also gave notice that he should on a future day move that the Income and Assessed Taxes be extended to Ireland. Also, that he should propose that the revenues of the Church of Ireland should be devoted to the purposes of general education. Also, that in the measure on the law of settlement, he should move that Irish paupers might be removed to Ireland at the expense of the parishes to which they belonged.

##### CONVICT DISCIPLINE IN THE HULKS.

On Thursday, Mr. THOMAS DUNCOMBE moved for a Select Committee to inquire into the treatment of convicts on board the hulks at Woolwich; and he made a long statement alleging gross mismanagement and cruelty, especially against Mr. Bossey, the surgeon. The principal points asserted by Mr. Duncombe are these. The returns of mortality are falsified, so as to show a number of deaths much below the fact. There is no inspection by Visiting Magistrates or other Inspectors. The reformation of the prisoners is totally neglected: there is no education: no spiritual instruction, except divine service on Sundays. The duties of Mr. Capper, who recently resigned, were left to be discharged by his nephew, a grocer in the Strand. The officers were guilty of many distinct acts of cruelty to patients. The Overseer caused a lunatic to be flogged for an act of mad violence. Another Overseer caused a man to be flogged three months after he was threatened with the punishment, for being five minutes too late at muster. Some of the insane prisoners suffered from disease and filth, in consequence of gross neglect as they lay in bed. Mr. Bossey laughed at a dying prisoner, and told him he would never go home. He threatened another man with flogging for epileptic fits, and roughly drenched him with water; he kept another man from the hospital for six months after he was treated for consumption; dissected a body before the Coroner's Jury sat upon it; with other acts of a similar kind. The medical treatment is of the rudest sort. The convict nurses, who watch the dying, impatiently dispose of the bodies, in order that they may search the bed for concealed money; and the bodies are carried, while yet warm, to the dissecting-room.

Sir GEORGE GREY said that such statements, assuming the facts to be true, would call for grave investigation; but these were made without any authority, and he utterly disbelieved them. A letter received by the Secretary to the Admiralty from Sir Gordon Bremer, superintendent at Woolwich, stated that there had only been one case of corporal punishment in the last four years. Last year, Mr. Duncombe presented a petition from Baker, a prisoner at Millbank penitentiary; a commission was appointed, and the allegations were proved to have been grossly exaggerated. Sir George, however, admitted that the hulks had not been under an efficient system. In 1843, the number of prisoners were greatly diminished; and, from that time to the present, that diminution had increased. The consequence had been, that, as it was only intended to keep up the hulk system till the prisoners could be gradually removed, no fresh appointment had been made amongst the officers, and the staff had much diminished. In the course of November last, however, Major Jebb had commenced an investigation of the system, under Sir George's direction; and the report which that officer had presented contained a recommendation that

Government, in connexion with the necessity which existed for more accommodation, owing to the proposed discontinuance of the transportation system, should appoint an efficient staff of officers for the hulks. That recommendation of Major Jebb had been sanctioned by the Government, and it was at present in the course of being carried into effect. A new chaplain is to be appointed, with a better salary, and time to devote to the moral and religious instruction of the convicts. If Mr. Duncombe would supply him with a statement of the facts he had given to the House, and of any others that had come within his knowledge, with the dates of their occurrence, Sir George assured him he should order a most searching investigation into all the cases. But it is not desirable to excite public feeling on the subject of convict discipline.

Sir George Grey was supported by Lord MAHON. Mr. Duncombe was supported in his motion, but not altogether in his statements, by Mr. AGLIONBY, Mr. WAXLEY, Mr. BICKHAM ESCOTT, Mr. FERRAND, Mr. HUME, Mr. MUNTZ, Sir WALTER JAMES, and Mr. EWART.

In reply, Mr. DUNCOMBE objected to Sir George Grey's use of the report on Baker's petition, because it emanated from but two commissioners; and a separate report by the third, Mr. Bickham Escott, is forthcoming.

On a division, the motion was negatived, by 121 to 44.

#### FERRAND versus LEWIS AND GRAHAM.

On Thursday, Mr. FERRAND moved for a Select Committee to inquire into the conduct of the Poor-law Commissioners in certain matters interesting to himself, and the control exercised over them by Sir James Graham; and he made a very long speech against the Commissioners and Sir James. It was almost entirely a repetition of former charges advanced by Mr. Ferrand, respecting the Keighley Union, Sir John Walsham, and Mr. Mott; eking out with copious extracts from the Report and Evidence of the Andover Committee on these affairs, and the cases of Mr. Day, Mr. Jenkin Jones, Colonel Wade, Mr. Parker, &c., &c. Mr. Ferrand renewed his accusations against Sir James, of corrupt interference in the appointment of Assistant-commissioners, and of causing Mr. Mott to go down to Bolton, and afterwards to Keighley, in order to vamp up reports for the purpose of rebutting charges against the administration of the Poor-law in those places. We recognize nothing new in the whole of this rambling and inflamed statement; except, we believe, the assertion that Sir James Graham sent for Mr. Ferrand to the Home Office, and tried, unsuccessfully, to dissuade him from opposing Government on the subject of the Poor-law.

Sir J. GRAHAM said he had come prepared to address himself to a motion embracing a large question of public policy coupled with a considerable amount of personal accusation against himself. But the hon. member for Knaresborough had confined himself wholly to the personal attack. The right hon. baronet then quoted the report of a Parliamentary committee acquitting Mr. Mott of all the most serious charges advanced by the hon. gentleman; and this was what he (Mr. Ferrand) had designated "trumped up falsehoods."

Mr. FERRAND: I did not say so.

Sir J. GRAHAM had taken a note of the words, but should be glad to know that the hon. member wished to retract them.

Mr. FERRAND: I said "a trumped up report."

Sir J. GRAHAM then proceeded to rebut Mr. Ferrand's charges *seriatim*, saying in conclusion, the matter could not rest where it now stood—an appeal having been fortunately made to the right tribunal. There, and there only, was he prepared to enter into a full explanation of the point peculiarly affecting the hon. member, and then he would be ready to give that explanation which his sense of duty prevented him from offering on the present occasion. [The right hon. baronet, who spoke with remarkable coolness, was much cheered on resuming his seat.]

The debate was protracted to great length, several speakers taking part in it—Mr. D'ISRAELI, Sir ROBERT PEEL, Mr. ROEBUCK, Mr. BICKHAM ESCOTT, Mr. VILLEIERS, and many more. Sir James Graham's very temperate and frank announcement completely won the feeling of the House to his side: even Mr. D'ISRAELI advised Mr. Ferrand to withdraw the motion; and Lord JOHN RUSSELL rebuked him for wasting the public time, by advancing a motion so totally irrelevant to the duties of the House, as it related to matters of which the House had already disposed, and which had been transferred to the courts of law. Professing to be satisfied with Sir James's promise to appear in the witness-box, Mr. FERRAND withdrew his motion.

#### THE DISTRESS IN IRELAND AND THE MAYNOOTH GRANT.

In the House of Lords, on Thursday, Lord BROUGHAM, after presenting a petition from East Looe, praying for an alteration in the law of settlement, observed that a correspondent of his noble friend Lord Robert Grosvenor had stated that the great distress in Ireland was only a just visitation for having acceded to the Maynooth grant—

That gentleman did not agree in opinion with Mr. Addison, expressed in one of the ablest papers of the *Spectator*, the object of that paper being to chide those who pretended to be always finding things to be judgments of Divine Providence [hear, hear]. They had always heard that the ways of Providence were inscrutable, but such individuals would affect to understand and to describe the inscrutable ways of Providence.

The Earl of CLARENDON said that the people in the Highlands of Scotland were greatly opposed to the Maynooth grant, and yet the distress had afflicted them also.

Lord BROUGHAM proceeded to say that a friend of his had written a book to show that the battle of Friedland had been won by the French against Russia in consequence of our not opposing the slave-trade with sufficient vigour [laughter]. He (Lord Brougham) observed to his friend that the Russians, who lost the battle, had no colonies, whilst the French, who won it, had West Indian colonies; so that he did not see how his friend could attribute the loss of that battle to the slave-trade, and his friend replied that he should not scrutinize the ways of Providence [laughter]; but he answered that he was not inclined to scrutinize those

ways, and that, in fact, his friend had written a book for the purpose of scrutinizing them [laughter]. He protested against mixing up sectarian and fanatical feelings with charity and benevolence, and against taking a course which was calculated to make the Sabbath unpopular and odious, instead of beloved and respected as it ought to be [hear, hear].

Earl FITZWILLIAM said it was desirable that they should have the information with respect to the destitute poor in an official form as soon as possible. With regard to the judgment of Providence, which it was said was apparent in the distress that prevailed in Ireland, he would ask who were the criminals? Why, a Parliament principally Protestant [hear, hear]. And they, who were the real criminals had been exempted from the evils which fell on others [hear, and cheers].

#### THE SPANISH MARRIAGES.

In the House of Lords, on Friday, the Earl of ABERDEEN inquired if any answer had been received to the last despatch of Lord Palmerston, in reference to the Spanish marriages; and if so, whether it would be laid upon the table in addition to the correspondence already produced:

It appears to me but reasonable, my Lords, that as this correspondence commenced with a letter from this country, it should close with a reply from the other side of the water. I do not wish to give any opinion on the subject matter of that correspondence, and I hope that the House may not be called upon to give any such opinion [hear, hear]. But, my lords, I will venture to state, that I have a very strong belief that this House and the country both desire to see that correspondence come to a termination [hear, hear]. It must be manifest, from that portion of the correspondence which has been already produced, that it is now continued without any definite or practical object ["Hear, hear," from Lord Brougham]—and that, if it be continued still further in the tone and temper which it has now assumed, it can only be apprehended that it may lead to the production of serious consequences.

The Marquis of LANSDOWNE said, that the answer had been shown to Lord Palmerston that morning by M. de Jarnac, but until that evening he would not be in possession of a copy of it. Lord Lansdowne was as desirous as Lord Aberdeen that the correspondence should be brought to a termination; but he, of course, could not say whether the despatch referred to might or might not require an answer. One thing he would say, that Government had no wish to suppress or withdraw any one circumstance connected with the whole transaction.

Lord BROUGHAM made a few remarks, in which he commented on M. Guizot's declaration that the marriage was "*un fait accompli*:" that was no apology for wrongdoing. But he could not help thinking that his excellent and distinguished friend had been misrepresented. Lord LANSDOWNE hoped so too.

In the other House, replying to Mr. FINCH, Lord PALMERSTON said that he should lay a copy of M. Guizot's last letter on the table.

#### MEASURES OF RELIEF FOR IRELAND.

In the House of Commons, on Monday, Lord JOHN RUSSELL moved the second reading of the Labouring Poor (Ireland) Bill.

Mr. WILLIAMS, in moving, as an amendment, that the second reading and all other stages of the Poor Relief (Ireland) Bill should have precedence of the Labouring Poor (Ireland) Bill, observed that he had no wish to throw any impediments in the way of the Government, but he thought that the Poor Relief Bill should have precedence of all others, inasmuch as it was in his opinion that most calculated to afford immediate and effective relief to Ireland. Had the English Poor-law been extended to Ireland, a great deal of money would have been saved and much suffering averted. He knew of no other means of affording permanent relief to Ireland than the introduction of an efficient Poor-law. The resources of Ireland were amply sufficient to meet the expenditure to which such a law would give rise. In conclusion, he called attention to a class of gentlemen who ought to bear the burden of supporting the poor of Ireland rather than the working classes of this country. Lord Mountcashel had estimated the rental of Ireland at £13,000,000, and the encumbrances upon it at £10,000,000. As, then, not more than £3,000,000 came into the hands of the Irish landlords, whose faults were rather of omission than of commission, he would compel the mortgagees to pay their share towards the support of the Irish poor.

As the amendment was not seconded, the order of the day was then read. On the question that the Labouring Poor (Ireland) Bill be read a second time,

Mr. BERNAL OSBORNE (who, having lately married an Irish heiress, has become a champion of the landed interest) addressed the House. It appeared to him, on reflection, that the scheme of Lord J. Russell did not propose to do anything more than had been previously proposed by former Governments; it proposed several bit-by-bit measures to meet the emergency of the moment, but nothing for the improvement of the social condition of the poor of Ireland. In point of fact, we were now making convulsive efforts of legislation to correct evils engendered by our own long neglect and oppression of the country. He then took a passing review of the measures proposed by the noble Lord, and first of the Act of the 9th and 10th Victoria. Anybody who had seen the destructive effects of that Act in breaking up the roads of Ireland, in vitiating the morals of its population, and in wasting the public finances, could not speak of it with moderation. August legislation was always of a hasty character; and he protested against the Labour Act then passed, because it was founded on the principle that the landed property of the country should be charged with the expense of meeting a national calamity. The Labour-rate Act, however, was now to be brought to an end, but the evil which it produced would not end with it. He did not know how the labouring population now on the roads was to be got off them. Like the author in the *Critic*, the noble lord had got all his *dramatis personae* on their knees, and like him had no other alternative than to get them off kneeling. He could not conceive how the farmers were to absorb into the labour on their farms the whole working population of Ireland. Lord John Russell had said that he would strike a rate for supplying it with soup kitchens; he might strike such a rate, but how would he collect it? Instead of these soup kitchens, he should have considered the necessity

of tilling the farms of Ireland for the next harvest:—

The number of farms in Ireland was about 750,000, and, of these, more than half were under twenty acres. If the noble lord was prepared with the machinery to carry his plans into execution, he called upon him to employ it in cultivating all the farms in Ireland under ten acres, otherwise he might be assured they would remain uncultivated. Then, again, if the prospect of the next harvest depended upon the grant of £50,000 for seed, the state of affairs next year would be worse than it was in this. At a rough calculation the noble lord's grant for seed would amount to about 2d. per acre for 125,000 Irish acres. Such a sum as £50,000 might do very well if the noble lord were anxious to encourage a good breed of poultry in Ireland, but it was a mere farce to speak of it as applicable to the supply of seed. The noble lord, in the course of his speech, took occasion to deprecate the idea which he said was entertained by a great many people, that it was either the duty or in the power of Government to provide food for a whole people.

He called on the House to pause before it voted one million of money on so Utopian a project as the reclamation of the waste lands of Ireland. Though he did not object to the principle of such reclamation, he condemned the plan of it enunciated by Lord John Russell as one of the greatest bubbles ever proposed to the House of Commons. The injury occasioned by small holdings was at the root of all the evils of Ireland; and yet the noble lord proposed to increase the number of these small holdings almost indefinitely. With respect to the introduction of a poor-law into Ireland, he intimated, that if it were the intention of her Majesty's Government to force such a law upon the landlords of that country, more time than had as yet been allowed should be given to them for the consideration of it. The Irish landlords were unanimous in supporting the principle of giving out-door relief to the infirm and aged poor; but, when it was proposed to give out-door relief to the able-bodied, the different circumstances of England and of Ireland ought to be taken into consideration previously. Such a measure in Ireland would be a confiscation commencing with a revolution, and would destroy the last spark of self-reliance now existing in the bosom of the Irish peasant. There were, however, economical objections to the plan which he conceived that it would be impossible to get over. The number of paupers in Ireland was 2,500,000. The price of supporting an Irish pauper in the workhouse was 1s. 9d. a week. At that rate, the cost of the new poor-law proposed by the Government would be £11,000,000 a year. Such a charge would swallow up the whole rental of Ireland; and the result of such a measure would be, that the support of the poor of Ireland would be thrown on the people of England, just as the support of the poor in the parish of Cholesbury, where the rents were swallowed up by the charge for the poor, was thrown in consequence on the adjacent parishes. There were many omissions in the noble lord's scheme, the principal of which were the refusal to entertain a systematic scheme for colonization, and the omission of a plan for the change of the grand jury system. Without these the noble lord's scheme would be found to be very inefficient. It was "the enunciation of a sentiment, instead of the declaration of a policy." After dwelling at some length upon the necessity which existed for changing to some extent the system of the Irish Executive Government, and hinting at the propriety of the Imperial Parliament meeting at stated intervals in Dublin Castle, the honourable gentleman intimated, on resuming his seat, that the debt which this county owe to Ireland was not one to be cancelled by a pecuniary compensation, but by wise and comprehensive laws, free from sectarian influence and parochial bigotry.

Mr. SMITH O'BRIEN then commented at some length on the proposed measures of Government. Alluding to the large extension of the Irish Poor-law, he stated that he had always been in support of some such measure. He did not feel the alarm of some gentlemen at extending out-door relief to the able-bodied; but he wished to impress it on the Government that no Poor-law could meet an evil of such extent as the present. The permission to borrow money under the Drainage Act was undoubtedly a loan to Ireland; but there was this advantage in it, that it would ultimately be equally beneficial to England. He thanked the Government for their measure for the commutation of tenures, and regretted that they had not further developed their measures for the extension and promotion of Irish fisheries. He was sorry to hear the noble lord speak in so desponding a tone on the subject of emigration, and regretted that, in the enunciation of his plans for the absorption of the surplus labour of the country, he had omitted the most important of all—that so long proposed by Mr. S. Crawford, for securing to the tenant some compensation for the capital invested in his farm. He was also of opinion that Lord J. Russell should have produced a scheme for stimulating the employment of English capital in the railroads of Ireland. Such advances might be made without risking the loss of a guinea, and with great advantage to the working population of Ireland. He was himself in favour of an absentee tax, being convinced that, without it, the noble lord would not be able to accomplish that state of social felicity which he professed himself anxious to establish in Ireland.

Mr. ROEBUCK, in the name of the people of England, protested against the whole scheme of Government— He protested against any attempt to relieve the Irish landlord—he protested against any attempt to provide employment for any portion of the Irish people—he protested against employing any of the hardly-earned capital of England for the purpose of draining the land of Ireland; and, lastly, he protested against that thing which the noble lord called a Poor-law. A Poor-law for Ireland! Was that to be called a Poor-law? It was no law, but merely two or three crude undigested clauses, giving peculiar powers to certain functionaries in Ireland, and which neither they would be able to execute, nor the people of Ireland to understand. But, if Ireland must have a poor-law, give to the people of Ireland a legal and necessary right to relief, and a poor-law that did not do that was not a sufficient poor-law [hear]. If they were to have a legal right to be relieved, then they must have it in some certain and defined place; and there must also be a law of settlement and removal [hear]. There must, in fact, be a poor-law built up from the very bottom, the right of relief being the grand fundamental position, and

the protest against the whole scheme of Government— He protested against any attempt to relieve the Irish landlord—he protested against any attempt to provide employment for any portion of the Irish people—he protested against employing any of the hardly-earned capital of England for the purpose of draining the land of Ireland; and, lastly, he protested against that thing which the noble lord called a Poor-law. A Poor-law for Ireland! Was that to be called a Poor-law? It was no law, but merely two or three crude undigested clauses, giving peculiar powers to certain functionaries in Ireland, and which neither they would be able to execute, nor the people of Ireland to understand. But, if Ireland must have a poor-law, give to the people of Ireland a legal and necessary right to relief, and a poor-law that did not do that was not a sufficient poor-law [hear]. If they were to have a legal right to be relieved, then they must have it in some certain and defined place; and there must also be a law of settlement and removal [hear]. There must, in fact, be a poor-law built up from the very bottom, the right of relief being the grand fundamental position, and

there must, also, be formed upon that a superstructure capable of doing that which was done by the English Poor-law. He had only, in stating this, said what he considered on the present question it was his duty to do. He could not agree with the remedies proposed by the noble lord, for a wise statesman would have taken advantage of the present disastrous circumstances, and would have chosen the present opportunity for fixing on the land of Ireland the maintenance of its own poor. He protested, therefore, against the bill of the noble lord, as not performing the office of a poor-law [hear, hear]. He would then tell them what to do—at once, without any hesitation, introduce the Poor-law of England (but freed from its faults) into Ireland, for, if that law was good for England, it was good for Ireland [hear, hear]. Introduce it there at once, and let it be established as the certain law of the land. But they must not stop here, for they ought, also, to change the whole of the law relating to real property [hear]. At the same time, he could not shut his ears to the evils which Ireland had had to endure, nor could he help admitting that the indifference and injustice which England had shown to that country were now recoiling on herself.

So long as they maintained the Church Establishment in Ireland, it was hopeless to attempt the regeneration of that country. They had left the Irish priests in that position in which it was their interest to perpetuate the evils of Ireland. No English Government could attempt to make a Government provision for the priests; but if the law of mortmain were done away with respect to them, they would soon become landed proprietors to the extent of about £300 a year, which would soon change the aspect of affairs. He was willing to give the Irish municipalities the power of maintaining what priesthood they chose, whilst the Government should apply the surplus revenue of the Church for the purposes of education.

Lord BERNARD complained of the Government having declined to interfere with the speculators in provisions, who had taken advantage of the dearth in Ireland to combine and keep up prices for their own benefit. He believed that the poor-laws should be assimilated in the two countries.

Sir R. INGLE repudiated the idea that the English people were indignant at the large and comprehensive measures which the Government had brought forward for the relief of Ireland. After bearing testimony to the exemplary manner in which the Irish had borne their sufferings, he adverted to the present conduct of the Protestant clergy in Ireland as strongly illustrative of the benefit of having a resident gentry in that country. As to the Poor-law, if the lax system at present in operation in Ireland was so imperfectly carried out, the more enlarged measure which it was now proposed to introduce would fail, unless it embodied the most stringent provisions for its own enforcement. An efficient Poor-law would be a virtual tax upon absentees.

Captain CONOLLY thanked Government for their generous policy towards Ireland, but hoped that the able-bodied poor would not be made a charge upon the land.

Mr. HUME inquired of the honourable gentleman who had preceded him, if he wished that the able-bodied poor of Ireland should become a burden upon the people of England:—

It did appear that on this subject there was the greatest possible indifference on the part of some hon. members from Ireland, though he admitted that others entertained different feelings, and believed that, by the application of proper measures, Ireland ought to be able to maintain its own poor, and raise itself in the scale of nations. What was lamentable was, to see some hon. gentlemen expressing approbation to her Majesty's Ministers, because the Ministers were ready to give them money ["Hear, hear," from Colonel Conolly]. Yes, money to the landlords of Ireland, and he begged the noble lord at the head of the Government to observe how readily assent had been given to the remark he had just made ("Hear," and a laugh).

They seemed to be going on satisfied, as if nothing was to be done but to advance money—money—money ["Hear," and laughter]. The Treasury would soon be emptied at this rate, and no Government ought to undertake the expenditure of many millions. The noble lord at the head of the Government had estimated this expenditure, as if it was a matter of no consequence, at £8,000,000 or £9,000,000. Some put it at twice that amount; and, for himself, he believed it would be three times as much, if no proper remedial measures were proposed. It was the duty, therefore, of the House to take care of the finances of the country, and to have some explanation as to where the money was to come from [hear, hear]. The House ought not to vote a single shilling without knowing how the expenditure was to be provided for. Supposing anything were to happen to this country by depression of trade and commerce, which was not unlikely after the present distress and high price of provisions, he should like to know in what condition the country would be after expending so many millions from the Exchequer? Would that be a time to provide £10,000,000 or £11,000,000 by loan? Why, that would knock down the public funds, and shake the credit of every party in the kingdom.

The present was the best opportunity that was ever afforded them, if they only had the courage to take advantage of it, of striking at the very root of the evils of Ireland, and that they could not do until they removed the dominant church in that country, and put Irishmen on an equality of civil rights with the people of this country, when Irishmen, Englishmen, and Scotchmen should be equally taxed.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER vindicated at some length the Labour-rate Act, under which, up to the 1st of September, £290,000 had been expended, which tended to raise the rate of wages in Ireland. That the Irish gentry were not dissatisfied with that act was evident from the extent to which they had made their presentments. The great object of the act was to enable the people to purchase that food which by the failure of the potato crop had been withdrawn from them. The occupiers of land, and not the absentee landlords, were mainly chargeable with a neglect of their duties to the people in this trying crisis:—

That many of them have done their duty in the most exemplary manner—that many of them, most of them, have been willing to aid, with exemplary generosity and self-sacrifice, in supporting persons from their own estates, and giving employment from their own estates and means—I am ready to bear my glad testimony; and among those who have done most, I am inclined to believe that those who have been stigmatized by one or two gentlemen to-night, the absentee landlords are foremost. It is only this day

that I have received an account of a gentleman, whom I may mention by name, as he is no longer a member of this House—I mean Colonel Wyndham—who, I believe, furnishes a daily ration to 10,000 people [cheers]. But that wherein I think there has been a considerable neglect of duty—and I am not speaking merely of the landlords of Ireland, because I believe the higher description of occupiers are still more in fault [hear, hear], and are those who have neglected their duty most grossly, and whom it is most difficult to compel to do their duty [hear, hear]—that in which I think they have neglected it is, in not endeavouring to prevent and check the abuses which, in truth, they themselves have perpetrated in these public works. I ask any Irish gentleman, even my noble friend behind me, whether I can acquit them of neglect of duty when, instead of performing the duties of finding employment for the destitute, they threw them upon the officers of public works [hear, hear].

The extension of the public works beyond their present limit, was almost impossible. In reply to an observation made, that in some parts of the country there were no provisions to be had, he stated, that during the first three weeks in January, there had been issued to relief committees, from the dépôt of Sligo, 146 tons of Indian meal, corn, and Egyptian wheat, enough to sustain 40,400 people for a week. They had determined to extend the system already in operation, and looked for every advantage from the distribution or sale for some time to come of rations of meal or cooked food throughout Ireland. The social economy of Ireland, founded on the potato—strange as such an expression might seem—was about to undergo a change; and under these circumstances, no greater blessing could accrue to that country than the establishment throughout it of small dealers in grain and other provisions, from whom the people might purchase food with the wages which they earned. It was not the intention of the Government to afford indiscriminate relief to the able-bodied poor in Ireland. The workhouse test was to be maintained, and relief was not to be given to the destitute able-bodied except in cases of pressing destitution, and when the workhouse was full. A great change should take place in the manner in which the people were employed. The large class which formerly subsisted upon the potato would soon, he hoped, cease to exist in Ireland—when they would be found labouring for wages, with which they might purchase a sufficiency of wholesome and nutritious food. The employment which the loans will give rise to will absorb a large portion of the labour of Ireland. As to the loans for general drainage, it was necessary to call in the agency of the Board of Works in applying them. He did not attach the same importance to the bill for the reclamation of the waste lands as some were disposed to do, but the object of that measure was to enable the Government to purchase in those districts of the country in which the nominal proprietors were unable to improve their own lands, small tracts, by the reclamation of which they might afford employment to a limited number of the people, who might otherwise be totally destitute of employment. As to the fisheries, it was the opinion of the Government that it was of the last importance to extend them on the west coast of Ireland. The measure for the sale of encumbered estates seemed to have met with very general approval; and he hoped that the whole of the Government measures—the loans to be made on the security of private estates, the loans to be made for drainage on the same security, the reclamation of waste lands, and the sale of encumbered estates, would lay the foundation of a sounder state of things in Ireland. But, in the midst of all their efforts, they could not conceal from themselves, that hundreds were dying from famine from week to week in Ireland. In this terrible emergency he implored the Irish members and landlords to afford the Government their readiest co-operation, and trusted that both England and Scotland would not be backward in doing what they could to alleviate the distress which was creating such havoc in the sister country.

On the motion of Mr. HAMILTON, the debate was then adjourned to Tuesday.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

**MEXICAN LETTERS OF MARQUE.**—In the House of Commons, on Friday, Mr. BARCLAY asked for some further information respecting the issue of letters of marque in this country under the Mexican flag. Lord PALMERSTON replied, that since the subject had been last mentioned, he had had a communication from General Mendoza, the Mexican Chargé d'Affaires, in which he was informed that there was no person in this country authorized to issue letters of marque under the Mexican flag. Under the Foreign Enlistment Act, no armed vessel could be equipped in this country without the permission of the Crown; but it could not go forth that foreign subjects abroad engaged in such enterprises become amenable to laws as pirates.

**DISTRESS IN SCOTLAND AND MEASURES OF RELIEF.**—On the same evening, Mr. FREDERICK DUNDAS and Mr. MACKINNON asked for some explanation respecting Government measures of relief for destitution in Scotland. Sir GEORGE GREY said that the Government did not contemplate establishing any system of relief, with respect to the islands and western Highlands of Scotland, other than those now in existence. Under the Drainage Act much employment had been obtained, dépôts for food had been established, the Loan Commissioners had assisted those applying to them, grants had been made in a few instances to aid local subscriptions where the Scotch poor-law was not sufficient for the emergency. Returns would be laid on the table immediately, showing all that had been done. Mr. MACKINNON wished to know if seed would be supplied, as in the case of Ireland. Sir GEORGE GREY said no application had been made for seed; but if there were such application, it would be duly considered by Government.

**IRISH IMMIGRANTS.**—The subject of the Irish pauperism that flows into Liverpool and Glasgow was alluded to in the House of Lords; where Earl FITZWILLIAM moved for returns respecting the number of paupers landing in the Mersey and in the Clyde. The returns were ordered. Lord FITZWILLIAM observed that the Irish paupers would not remain in Liverpool, but would spread to the other towns of England. Lord BROUGHAM stated some further particulars which had been furnished to him from Liverpool, showing the amount of

claims upon relief made by Irish paupers. Between January 18th and January 26th inclusive, the acts of relief amounted to 173,513. Not that there were so many persons relieved, because one person might be relieved, perhaps, two or three times. The number of rations a day was 2,500; the number of soup-tickets 7,800. The increase in out-door relief since the corresponding period of last year was £408, of which increased expenditure, £378, or 19-20ths of the whole, was rendered necessary by the large numbers of Irish poor. The increase in the payments to the resident poor of Liverpool was only £22 a week above the corresponding period of last year.

**THE BILL FOR THE USE OF SUGAR IN BREWERIES, &c.** was read a second time on Friday.

**THE WELLINGTON STATUE.**—In reply to Captain POLHILL, on Monday, Lord MORPETH said the Government had signified their wish to the sub-committee of the Wellington statue, that it should be removed from the place which it occupies.

#### POSTSCRIPT.

Wednesday, February 3rd.

#### PARLIAMENTARY INTELLIGENCE.

##### THE GOVERNMENT AND EDUCATION.

In the House of Lords last night, the Marquis of LANSDOWNE said that on Friday he should lay before their lordships certain minutes adopted by the committee of the Privy Council on the subject of education, and he would take that occasion of submitting to the House certain alterations and additions which the committee had suggested in dispensing the funds voted by Parliament for national education.

The Duke of RICHMOND moved for the re-appointment of the select committee on the entail of real property, which was ordered.

##### RELIEF OF IRELAND.

In the House of Commons, the adjourned debate on the Ministerial measures for the relief of Ireland was resumed and concluded, and the three temporary measures were read a second time with a wonderful unanimity. These three bills are, first, "A Bill to render valid certain Proceedings for the Relief of Distress in Ireland, by Employment of the Labouring Poor." It legalized and continues the extended provisions of the Poor Employment Act, passed at the end of last session. The second is "A Bill for the Temporary Relief of Destitute Persons in Ireland," which may be described as a poor-law extraordinary, and is apparently designed for the immediate relief of those from whom we cannot require the condition of work. The third is a long-wanted and wished-for enlargement of the Irish poor-law—viz., "A Bill to make further Provision for the Relief of the Destitute Poor in Ireland," though, it appears, the new poor-law for Ireland is yet to appear.

The Irish members monopolized the principal part of the discussion, giving a general, but by no means entire assent to the Government measures. Mr. HAMILTON, Lord CASTLEREAGH, and Mr. J. O'CONNELL defended the Irish landlords. The latter felt bound to say that they were, as a class, acting nobly in the present distressing crisis; and considering that Irish landlordism, as it now existed, was the offspring of English legislature, he thought that whatever remissness was chargeable upon some of the landlords might very justly be brought home to the Imperial Legislature. He urged the propriety of hastening the end of the discussion, as thousands of the people of Ireland would otherwise perish before the proposed measure of relief could reach them. Mr. CECIL LAWLESS, Mr. GREGORY, and Mr. LEFRONT blamed Government for not adopting their remedial measures at an earlier period.

Mr. LABOUCHERE would join in no sweeping condemnation against the Irish landlords, many of whom had conscientiously done their duty; but he was bound to say, that in too many instances had the Government, in its exertions to ameliorate the condition of Ireland, been deprived of that support on the part of the landlords which they had a right to expect. He defended the Government for the course which they had taken with regard to the importation of food into Ireland, and the establishment of provision dépôts. Had they imported on the great scale on which some honourable gentlemen had said that they should have done, and established dépôts through the interior of the country, instead of alleviating distress, they would have aggravated, in a tenfold degree, the evils of Ireland. He hoped, that the measures before the House would soon get into committee, as it was of the last importance that some of them should take effect immediately. If it was necessary that the present system of works should be superseded by another system, time was a matter of consequence to them. He did not believe that these works had drawn very many from the cultivation of the soil, inasmuch as it was an ascertained fact that a greater breadth of wheat had been sown this year than last year. He admitted that they might interfere, if persevered in, with the preparation of the soil for the spring crops, and, in that respect, it was very important that the new system should be substituted for them without delay.

Sir R. PEEL then addressed the House, and was all compliment and conciliation. He gave his cordial assent to the Bill of Indemnity. He wished to see the temporary bills before the House pass as soon as possible, but thought the discussion of the general and permanent measures just then out of season. He was ready to give, under existing circumstances, a wide discretion to the Government. The officers who had been engaged in carrying the present system into operation were entitled to the greatest credit. As to the landlords of Ireland, he thought that great allowance should be made for the difficulties with which they were surrounded. English gentlemen should remember this, when they censured the landlords of the sister country. And in reference to that sex who were always foremost in the works of charity and mercy, there was no country in the world the "ladies and females" of

which exhibited instances of greater devotion and sacrifice of health, time, and all worldly interests, in attempting to alleviate the distress which existed around them, than did those of Ireland. With regard to the measures for the permanent improvement of Ireland he would only say that the bill for the sale of encumbered estates was of more importance than any other, and that he hoped the noble lord would pause before he appropriated the public money to so problematic a purpose as the cultivation of waste lands. If the speculation in regard to the waste lands was a profitable one, private capital would soon be embarked in the enterprise; if it was not profitable, they would only be throwing away the public money in so appropriating it.

After a suggestion from Mr. GOULBURN that, instead of the Government having unlimited control over the consolidated fund, they should apply, from time to time, to Parliament for such specific grants as might appear necessary, the debate terminated.

In an earlier part of the evening, Lord JOHN RUSSELL—in reply to Mr. ROEBUCK, who claimed that a day should be assigned for bringing forward the subject—stated, that as soon as the House had consented to the second reading of the bills before it, the Chancellor of the Exchequer would bring forward the whole question of finance as regarded Ireland; but he could not, at present, name a day. He also hoped to introduce a bill on the relations of Irish landlords and tenants.

Several notices of motion were given—by Mr. ETWALL, on the subject of the Andover Union, for the 16th inst.; by Lord J. MANNERS, for leave to bring in a bill to alter and amend the law relating to the disposition of property for pious and charitable purposes; and by Mr. E. DENISON, for a committee to inquire into the composition and management of the Ecclesiastical Commission.

Sir FREDERICK THESIGER informed the House that the Court of Exchequer Chamber had that very day reversed the decision of the Court of Queen's Bench, in the case of Howard and Gossett. The result of the inquiry made in the Court of Appeal would be to place the House in a much more favourable position in future for the assertion and vindication of their privileges.

#### BRITISH ANTI-STATE-CHURCH ASSOCIATION. DEPUTATION FROM THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AT BOLTON.

A public meeting in connexion with the above Association was held in the Town-hall, Little Bolton, on Thursday evening, Jan. 28th, 1847. The Hall, which is calculated to hold between 400 and 500 persons, was crowded with a highly respectable audience. Mr. Henry, of the firm of Henry and Southworth, drapers, occupied the chair. On the platform were the deputation, consisting of Dr. Thomas Price, editor of the *Eclectic Review*, and Edward Miall, Esq., editor of the *Nonconformist*; also, Mr. Etheridge, Baptist minister, of Bolton, Mr. D. Rhys Stephen, Baptist minister, of Manchester, and several others, chiefly working men: for, it is to be understood, that the two Independent ministers, together with the wealthier portion of their congregations—"the aristocracy of Dissent"—were opposed *in toto* to the reception of the deputation, and had resolved to do their utmost—to use all the influence that wealth and station could command—for the purpose of making the meeting a failure. It was predicted infallibly by one gentleman that one of the smallest rooms in the town would be sufficient to hold all that would attend, and also that the meeting would end in smoke. This prophecy would have been literally fulfilled if the principles of the Anti-state-church Society had not, to a very great extent, gained "an introduction to the young mind of Dissent," and it was chiefly to the energetic and determined efforts of a few of the young Dissenters, chiefly working-men, that at so short a notice such a crowded meeting was raised, considering the "local difficulties" they had to contend with. After a few remarks from the Chairman, expressing his complete concurrence in the object that had brought them together, the first resolution, which, with the others, was the same in substance as those adopted at other meetings, was proposed by Mr. Ferguson, seconded by Mr. Stephen, of Manchester, and carried unanimously. Mr. Etheridge proposed and Mr. Mackie seconded the next resolution, which was supported by Dr. Price in an able speech. The third resolution was proposed by Mr. D. Haddock and seconded Mr. Kay, and supported by Mr. E. Miall. Each of the members of the deputation were very cordially received. Mr. D. GREY then rose to move a vote of thanks to the deputation for the very able and efficient services they had rendered to the cause of truth and righteousness on this occasion, and said that he thought there was not one present, from the specimen they had had of the courtesy of the deputation, and their honest, straightforward mode of dealing with truth and righteous principles, who would be afraid of being set fire to and burned by coming in contact with Edward Miall or Dr. Price. Mr. William Swift very cordially rose to second the motion. The Chairman, before putting the motion to the meeting, said he had a remark to make, to the effect, that it had been prophesied a very small room would hold the meeting, but that the present crowded assembly completely nullified the prediction—and also that the meeting would all end in smoke, but they were now, by giving a hearty expression of thanks to the deputation, evincing the fact, that the prophecy was a false one, and that it ended in nothing but smoke. The resolution was then put, and carried unanimously, with loud and long continued applause; after which Mr. Miall briefly returned thanks, and moved a vote of thanks to the Chairman for his able conduct in the chair, which was seconded by Dr. Price, and carried unanimously; and thus terminated a meeting which, it is to be hoped, has left an impression on the minds of many never to be erased. It may be said, to the credit and honour of the deputation, that there has not been, for a very long time, a meeting, even on the most popular subject, at which persons have kept their places till after half-past ten o'clock with so much willingness and quietness, and have listened to speeches, at what is considered a late hour, with so much attention and pleasure. It may also be stated, that a local committee has been formed, and it is to be hoped that its members will earnestly and heartily labour, conjointly with the As-

sociation, in this neighbourhood to carry out the grand and glorious design of releasing Christianity from State bondage.—*From a Correspondent.*

#### IRELAND.

THE BOARD OF HEALTH.—The Lord-lieutenant, in consequence of the increase of contagious fever in several districts, re-organized the Central Board of Health for Ireland, originally established at the close of 1845. The board is composed of the following members: Sir Philip Crampton, Dr. Corrigan, Sir Randolph Routh, commissary-general, Sir Robert Kane, and Mr. Twisleton, poor-law commissioner.

According to the *Limerick Chronicle*, it is found necessary that the pay-clerks under the Board of Works should be constantly protected from violence by an escort of police.

PRICES OF GRAIN.—The prices of all kinds of grain continue to decline in the provincial markets, the fall in wheat ranging from 5s. to 2s. 6d. per barrel, with a proportionate reduction in oats, barley, and meal. The supplies are better than for some months past.

GALWAY ELECTION.—A requisition is in course of signature at Galway, entreating Solicitor-General Monahan to offer himself a candidate for that town. The "Young Ireland" party have published an address from "the Council of the Irish Confederation" to the people of Galway, earnestly urging them to vote for no candidate who is not "a pledged and determined repealer." Mr. Comyn, of Woodstock, is to be their candidate, and Mr. O'Flaherty, of Knockbane, the *protégé* of Mr. O'Connell. Persons conversant with Galway politics, relying upon the split between the Repealers, calculate upon the success of Mr. Monahan.

THE REPEAL ASSOCIATION met on Monday, but the attendance was thin in the extreme. Mr. O'Flaherty, a newly-fledged Repealer, and the candidate for Galway, occupied the chair. After the usual amount of talk, the rent was announced to be £27 7s. 11d.

RE-APPEARANCE OF THE POTATO DISEASE.—The blight is not confined to plants raised by artificial means, but has commenced among potatoes grown in the open air. Mr. Boyse, of Bannow, a magistrate and extensive land proprietor in the county of Wexford, writes to the *Dublin Evening Post* as follows:—"I am sorry to tell you that having planted some seed here in the month of last October, in a garden border facing the south-west, I had some of them taken up on reading your article of Tuesday last, when, to my utter dismay, I perceived, in almost every plant raised, the unequivocal appearance of the same fatal disease which has consigned the whole island to desolation and despair." Notwithstanding the almost total destruction of the potato crop last year, there has been some early planting of the esculent in all parts of the country, and arrangements have been made for a pretty considerable spring sowing.

CONDITION OF THE COUNTRY.—The reports of the spread of famine are most heart-rending. There are accounts of many more deaths from starvation in Sligo, Galway, Kerry, Cork, and other counties. The Tuam paper states, that in the neighbourhood of Kilconly eighteen persons have within a few days perished from starvation; and that from every quarter of the county the intelligence is of the most gloomy character. Mr. E. Moore, rector of Cony, in the most destitute part of Mayo, announces the number of deaths by famine to be fearfully on the increase. In part of his parish, out of a population of 5,000 souls, there are as yet only 750 at work; some of these persons receiving wages at the low rate of 3d. per diem, with meal at 6d. a quart. This, however, it is to be hoped, is an isolated case.

THE IRISH POOR-LAW COMMISSION.—In consequence of the great increase in the business of their department, a new assistant-commissioner has been appointed, namely, Charles Sharman Crawford, Esq., son of William S. Crawford, Esq., M.P.

THE CONVICT HULKS AT WOOLWICH.—Sir George Grey, Secretary of State for the Home Department, has ordered the strictest investigation relative to the statements made in the House of Commons by Thomas Duncombe, Esq., M.P., on the evening of Thursday last, relative to the convicts at Woolwich; and the investigation is now in progress, and will be made public in the most unreserved manner, the parties charged being most anxious that a true statement of the treatment of that unfortunate class should be elicited.—*Globe.*

IRISH RELIEF.—For the last fortnight the Irish Government, and, indeed, the Board of Treasury here, have been doing all in their power to alleviate distress by organizing relief committees in every parish in Ireland. Six or seven new inspectors of relief have been appointed within the last fortnight, for the most part gallant officers of the army and navy. Among the latter is Captain W. N. Glascock, R.N., who, three days after the Tyne had been paid off, was despatched to Ireland. A better appointment or a more popular one could not have been made.—*Morning Herald.*

REDUCTION IN THE PRICE OF BREAD.—Yesterday morning nearly all the bakers in the metropolis reduced the price of their bread from 9d. to 9d. best quality, and from 8½d. to 8d. for "household." Some few of the full-priced bakers are still charging as high as 10d. and 11d. for bread of a similar quality. The price of the best flour is 10d., and that of a second quality 9d. per quart.

WEST SUSSEX ELECTION.—Mr. Prime was yesterday elected M.P. for the western division of the county of Sussex. The nomination took place at Chichester. The proceedings were by no means unanimous, although no opposing candidate was brought forward. Mr. Prime was proposed by the Hon. Mr. Curzon, and seconded by Mr. Burrell. No opposition to this motion was anticipated, notwithstanding that the great majority of those present in the hall were evidently opposed to the political views of the proposed candidate, and the proceedings appeared about to close in the commonplace manner usual when candidates are allowed to "walk over the course." Suddenly, how-

ever, and to the evident chagrin of Mr. Prime's party, who expected the affair to pass off without any resistance, Mr. A. Cox, of Brighton, and an elector, rose and warmly protested against such a farce as that which was then enacting being called an election for the Western Division of Sussex [cheers]. The whole affair was an utter farce. The electors of West Sussex had not the power of rejecting the candidate chosen for them by the landed proprietors. There were the Duke of Richmond and the Duke of Norfolk, for instance. Why, if either of these noblemen chose to select his footman as a candidate, the electors had no power to prevent his election taking place [hear, hear]. Mr. Malden, Independent minister, then put a series of questions to Mr. Prime, and among others—Would Mr. Prime, provided her Majesty's Ministers thought proper to bring in a bill to endow the Roman Catholic priests, support them in such a measure? Would he vote that any more money should be granted out of the public treasury to any section of the religious public? He (Mr. Maiden) disapproved of Government giving such grants to any portion of Christ's church. Would Mr. Prime, if a motion were made in Parliament to emancipate the clergy of this country, by dissolving the union between Church and State, support such a proposition? He (Mr. Malden) considered that connexion unjust to the church, unjust to the State, and unjust to all Dissenters. Would Mr. Prime vote for a repeal of the laws of primogeniture? Mr. Prime was opposed to the repeal of the law of primogeniture, was in favour of Mother Church, and against Dissent, and thought it would be advisable to endow the priests for the sake of tranquillizing Ireland. The High Sheriff having declared Mr. Prime duly elected, the hon. member returned thanks, and the election terminated with a procession round the city, and a public dinner.

MANCHESTER ATHENÆUM ESSAY AND DISCUSSION CLASS.—The last meeting of this class was held a few evenings ago, when Mr. William Corns, teacher of the Roby day-school, read a paper entitled, "Is it the duty of the State to educate the people?" in which he maintained, that it was not the duty of the State to interfere with the education of the people, the only legitimate object of the State being the administration of justice. The essayist also proceeded to show the injurious effects which the various systems of national education now in operation had produced on the Continent of Europe; and lastly, that the Voluntary system, if allowed fair play, would be found amply sufficient to supply any deficiency in the amount or quality of education. We are glad to be able to assure our readers that when the question was put from the chair, the majority were of the same opinion as the essayist; this fact, we think, augurs well for Young Manchester.

DISTRESS IN IRELAND AND SCOTLAND.—PROGRESS OF MEASURES OF RELIEF.—At a meeting in the Wesleyan Centenary Hall, Bishopsgate-street, London, for the purpose of adopting measures to raise a subscription on behalf of the destitute Irish and Highlanders of Scotland, Mr. Hatherton, president of the Wesleyan Conference, who was in the chair, expressed a hope that the Wesleyan Methodists would be able to raise £30,000 in their denomination.—The members of the deputation from the Irish Congregational Union were engaged last Sunday in advocating the cause of their distressed countrymen in various chapels in the metropolis, when liberal collections were made. At Wycliffe Chapel £73 8s. was collected; and large amounts at Walworth, and Mr. Wells's, Hackney. An appeal on behalf of the Society will be found in our advertising columns.—The Edinburgh Destitution Fund amounts to £24,099 6s. 2d.

EXETER HALL.—FAMINE IN IRELAND AND SCOTLAND.—How much soever we may deplore the cause that has led to the meeting at Exeter-hall on Thursday next (to-morrow), we can but admire the truly Christian and purely philanthropic principles by which its promoters are actuated. No sectarian feelings will be allowed to interrupt the tide of benevolence which is now so much and so universally required; but all religious persuasions will be enabled to co-operate on the occasion referred to, and to vie with each other in endeavouring to mitigate the calamities of famine and destitution, under which so many of our fellow-creatures are at this moment acutely suffering.

APPOINTMENT OF FOUR NEW BISHOPS.—The bishops, at their recent meeting, to which we alluded in our last, accepted Lord John Russell's proposals to have four new bishops created, without seats in Parliament; but to succeed to seats as vacancies occur, and the four junior bishops to be always without seats. The bishops accepted this in preference to a new Bishop of Manchester with a seat. Thus the number of spiritual peers will not be increased.—*Church and State Gazette.*

NOBLE CHAPEL-DEBT EFFORT.—The eight Congregational or Independent churches in Liverpool have succeeded in liquidating the whole of their chapel debts, and are now, in the full sense of the term, *free* churches. The effort was a joint one; and, encouraged by its success, the same body are about to raise funds for erecting a number of new chapels, to meet the increasing wants of the town.

SIR ROBERT PEEL AND HIS LABOURERS.—During the past week Sir Robert Peel has directed that the wages of the labourers employed on his estate be augmented from twelve to fifteen shillings per week. This generous step on the part of the right hon. baronet has, we believe, been taken in consequence of the present dearness and scarcity of food.—*Birmingham Journal.*

#### CORN MARKET. MARK LANE. THIS DAY.

	Wheat	Barley	Oats	Beans	Peas	Flour
English ....	4440	6570	5930			4870
Scotch.....						
Irish .....						
Foreign .....	1970	1940	590			

The market remains the same.

Terms for advertising in the *Nonconformist*.  
 For Eight Lines and under . . . . . 5s. 0d.  
 For every additional Two Lines . . . . . 6d.  
 Half a Column . . . £1 | Column . . . . . £2  
 \* All communications to the Editor should be addressed to the office, 3, Whitefriars-street, Fleet-street.

## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Philo." Declined.  
 "Juvenis," and "G. M'Connal." Next week.  
 "Hopeful." How can men be expected to pray publicly for that which they refuse to assist in their private sphere?  
 "Emendator." The whole subject underwent discussion in our columns two years ago, and our opinion upon it was recorded. We cannot re-open the question.  
 "Another Inquirer" will find, by a paragraph elsewhere, that Wales is not overlooked.  
 "Thos. Johnson." Defective they may be, although, in some cases, capable of being enforced.  
 "A Determined Anti-game-law Man and Firm Noncon." We have said our say in no equivocal terms more than once, and shall recur to the topic whenever it fairly turns up.  
 "John Penny's." His letter would have been inserted last week, if we could have found room. It is now somewhat out of date. We entirely concur in his remarks.  
 "H. Christopherson." We will endeavour to make use of his communication next week.

## The Nonconformist.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, FEB. 3, 1847.

## SUMMARY.

SINCE the announcement of the Ministerial plans for relieving distress, and elevating the masses of Ireland, made by Lord John Russell in the House of Commons on Monday se'nnight, there has been a natural pause in its proceedings, time having been taken to deliberate upon the nature and bearings of so extensive a scheme, and the impropriety felt of suffering the interval to be distracted by the introduction of other questions of prominent importance. There is need for leisurely consideration; for assuredly the measures propounded by Lord John Russell will, if carried, affect, to an incalculable extent, the prospects of the empire. On the plans for the immediate relief of the starving peasantry there would seem to be no great difference of opinion. They are cautious, economical, and likely, if carried into effect, to rescue the destitute from the appalling horrors of famine without producing that wholesale demoralization of the people which followed the working of the Labour-rate Act. The devices by which the habits of the peasantry are sought to be re-fashioned, and permanent employment found for destitute millions, are entitled to no such praise. They are based upon a principle, the worthlessness of which uniform experience has sufficiently demonstrated—that of constituting the land proprietors of Ireland the conduits through which British beneficence is to find its way to the homes of Irish serfs. This class—bankrupt in circumstances, burdened with heavy incumbrances, negligent to a proverb of all social duties, and complained of by Government officials as shirking all responsibility, and throwing obstructions in the way of the Board of Works during the recent calamity which has involved the lives of myriads—has been selected by Lord John Russell as trustees of the national bounty, and elevated into the post of agents for regenerating the character and condition of the Irish poor. To them our money is to be lent in strange profusion, almost without check or control. They are to work the whole machinery of improvement, and from them we are taught to expect social and moral changes of the highest order. Preposterous! Every newspaper teems with evidence of their utter unfitness for the trust proposed to be confided to them. The sad history of Ireland for a hundred and fifty years back points them out as the principal cause of her present misery and degradation; and, but for the fact that the landlord class is the legislating class of these realms, no Minister in his senses would have dreamt for a moment of basing schemes for the elevation of the peasantry upon so insecure and visionary a foundation.

The Ministerial measures are not destined to pass the House, we trust, without close and searching discussion. Some conversation took place upon them on Thursday night, when Mr. Roebuck inquired the probable expense of the proposed plans, and the mode in which the requisite sum is to be raised. Lord John Russell estimated that the immediate relief to be afforded to the Irish people would cost by August next about £7,000,000. The expense of his permanent measures he does not seem to have computed, and referred to the measures themselves when they should be produced, as the best ground for forming a judgment on this head.

The debate opened formally on Monday. Mr. Williams proposed a postponement of the consideration of the Labouring Poor (Ireland) Bill until the second reading, and all other stages, of the Poor Relief (Ireland) Bill should be passed. His amendment was not seconded, and the discussion on the second reading of the Labouring Poor Bill proceeded. It is difficult to characterize all the speeches which were delivered. Mr. Osborne and Mr. Smith O'Brien were unlimited in their demands upon the Imperial Treasury. Mr. Roebuck described, with much accuracy and power, the condition of the labouring population and the landlords; protested against the idea

that the former were to be fed, or the latter rescued from ruin, at the cost of British industry; claimed for Ireland an efficient poor-law, a better law of real property, a better system of tenures, and better relations between landlord and tenant; hinted at the policy of allowing each priest to hold lands to the amount of £300 a year—and, after having ridiculed the pretensions of any Government to become a land-jobber, a corn-jobber, or a road-maker, recommended with charming inconsistency that it should be the wholesale jobber in matters of education. Sir R. Inglis defended the Government proposals, and anticipated from them, if carried, a grand social revolution in Ireland, which would produce a greater change in occupation and tenure than any measure proposed during the last three hundred years. Mr. Hume threw out some very reasonable doubts as to the ways and means, which the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who followed him, did not attempt to solve, but gave, perhaps unconsciously, strong and irrefragable evidence of the unfitness of Irish landlords to be entrusted with the carrying out of plans for the improvement of the Irish people. The debate was adjourned until Tuesday evening.

The other topics which have come under the notice of Parliament are of little importance. Mr. Duncombe, on Thursday night, moved for a select committee to inquire into the treatment of convicts on board the hulks at Woolwich, and alleged gross mismanagement and cruelty, especially against Mr. Bossey, the surgeon. Sir George Grey half admitted negligence in carrying out the present system—promised searching investigation—and refused the committee. On the same evening Mr. Ferrand brought forward his grievances in the matter of the Keighley union, Sir J. Walsham, Mr. Mott, and Sir J. Graham; the ex-Home Secretary expressed his readiness to appear as witness, at the pending trial of Mr. Ferrand, to all the facts with which he was acquainted, affecting the member for Knaresborough, and that then he would be ready to give that explanation which his sense of duty prevented him from offering at that moment to the House. A protracted debate ensued, at the close of which Lord John Russell rebuked Mr. Ferrand for wasting the public time; and Mr. Ferrand, professing to be satisfied with Sir James's promise to appear in the witness-box, withdrew his motion.

The House of Lords, as usual at the commencement of the Parliamentary session, has been but little occupied. Two or three conversations, on topics connected with the distress in Ireland—the inundation of Liverpool with Irish paupers—the connexion between the Maynooth grant and the present overwhelming calamity—and the Spanish marriages, in each of which Lord Brougham took a prominent part, comprised the whole of their lordships' proceedings.

We are happy in being able to report progress in the British Anti-state-church Association. Our columns of last week contained the report of a tea-party, held at Manchester, and attended by a deputation from the Executive Committee. On Tuesday evening the deputation held a public meeting at Liverpool, which, but for unseemly interruption, would have been a most effective and cheering demonstration. On Wednesday they were engaged in the same way at Warrington; on Thursday, at Bolton; and on Friday, at Rochdale. Their tour, limited as it has been, has served to satisfy them that the Dissenters of Lancashire are now ripe for the movement. In each place which they visited they left behind them efficient committees; and they calculate, upon no uncertain grounds, that the same energy which distinguished the conduct of the League, by the people of the great manufacturing towns in the north, will very speedily be thrown into the present agitation for effecting a separation of the church from the State.

The foreign intelligence of the week may be briefly summed up. Dearth and food-riots, and financial difficulties, comprise the principal news from France; whilst, in the political world, the correspondence on the Montpensier marriages has brought down upon the minister of Louis Philippe general and well-merited indignation and odium for his duplicity and disregard of truth. Switzerland is alarmed at the threatened intervention of the Northern powers with her domestic policy; Spain, the subject of another ministerial "crisis"—perhaps about exchanging King Stork for King Log; and Prussia is again, for the hundredth time, credulously expecting the long-promised constitution at the hands of her Sovereign. From the other side of the Atlantic we have tidings of the continuance of the war with Mexico; of the want of sympathy between the President and the legislature on the subject; of the financial difficulties of the Washington Cabinet; and the increasing disgust of the American people at the expensive contest into which Mr. Polk has dragged them. The rejection of a resolution, in the House of Representatives, that, "In any territory which may be secured to the United States from Mexico, slavery and involuntary servitude shall be for ever prohibited, provided, however, that it shall be lawful to deliver up any servants belonging to the United States who may have escaped into said territory," by a majority of one only, is an indication of the coming contest between the slave and free states, for a preponderance in the Legislature. That the former will gain a triumph is very much to be feared.

Last night's *Gazette* announces the appointment of the twelve bishops, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and the Home Secretary, commissioners "for considering the state of the several bishoprics in England and Wales."

## THE MINISTERIAL SOLUTION OF THE IRISH DIFFICULTY.

"Money, Paul, can do anything."  
 Paul Dombe, senior.

THE Irish policy of the Whig Government has been announced. The series of measures adopted by Ministers for the present relief and permanent improvement of Ireland is before the country. A more magnificent bubble was never blown. Glittering, but hollow—costly, but inefficient—recklessly improvident, impolitic, and unjust—the plans submitted to Parliament by Lord John Russell, on Monday week, may become law or not; but one thing is quite certain, that it will be found, ere the lapse of many months, that they cannot be reduced to practice. Mischievous in principle, they are calculated only to aggravate the evil which they profess to cure. Framed in startling and gratuitous opposition to all experience, the slightest examination of them will suffice to make all parties but those directly interested pause and tremble. Are we to be hurried over a precipice the bottom of which no living soul can see? Parliament may, perchance, reply "Yes"—the country will soon utter its decisive "No."

The first feature of the Ministerial measures which strikes an observant mind, is the utter recklessness of expense which they display. On this head, Lord John Russell has evinced his characteristic hardihood. He goes to work with a cool confidence which takes away one's breath. He is not even prepared with estimates. The matter of finance seems hardly to have entered into his head. He gives as though his resources were inexhaustible. He promises as if he were the possessor of Aladdin's Wonderful Lamp. Past efforts, temporary relief, permanent improvements—all are to be at the cost of British tax-payers. Food for the destitute, from October last to August next—seed-corn for the farmers—capital for the improvement of landed estates—drainage-works of a most extensive character—reclamation of waste lands—boats, tackle, and curing-houses for fisheries—emigration to distant colonies—English money is to provide for all. In some cases, the expense is to be divided between Irish land proprietors and the public—that is, loans are to be advanced, which no man in his senses expects to be repaid. The very first proposal of the Premier remits half the debt which last session he declared his full determination to exact—thereby inviting Irish borrowers to demand extravagantly what they are encouraged to believe they will never be compelled to repay. Why, a permanent addition to our taxation of two or three millions a year, would be a merciful infliction in comparison of the drain which Lord John Russell means to establish. Irish improvidence is a Maelstrom, which will suck into its insatiable vortex any conceivable amount of income; and will return, as of yore—nothing but loud murmurs.

The next noticeable feature of the Government measures is, that they embody no recognized principle of policy—not even that which Lord John Russell himself is perpetually enunciating as identified with all sound statesmanship—the principle of testing destitution before extending it to relief. His scheme is without a backbone. When dealing with the starving peasantry, he exhibits some caution lest too unsparing a generosity should beget, or rather confirm, a habit of dependence. But a beggared proprietary are treated after a different fashion. There is not a single provision in his whole catalogue of remedies, which aims at enforcing on this class self-reliance—nothing to elicit enterprise—nothing to provoke vigilance—nothing to compel economy—nothing to rebuke thoughtlessness and improvidence. What they have been, he offers a premium upon their continuing to be. In relation to them, he proceeds from first to last upon a system which all experience has demonstrated to be radically unsound—as hurtful to themselves as it is wasteful for the public. He offers artificial stimulants to a rapacity which has already mortgaged the landed property of Ireland to within a fraction of its rental. He gives brandy to a patient already parched with fever. He pats helplessness on the head, and entices it to become yet more helpless. And he does all this at the same moment, and in the same breath, as that in which he recounts the palpable failure of his past experiments in this direction. His present policy is but an enlarged edition of his former blunder. He corrects himself by magnifying his mistake—throws good money after bad—and, like a bewildered gamester, makes former losses an argument for staking larger sums. The whole thing looks like fatuity—a blind tilt against reason, experience, and obvious justice.

There is another light in which these measures may be viewed. They are designed to be means to an end—and for their adaptation to that end they have no doubt been selected. Look at them fixedly, and what is their purport? Examine them closely, and you cannot fail to discover their bearing. They are landlords' measures—framed to please landlords—designed to relieve landlords—calculated to win the suffrages of landlords only. Ministers have been acting under a pressure which has overborne their natural sagacity and their avowed principles—and the pressure, it is clear, is not that of events, but of party. The necessity to which they have bowed is one forced upon them by needy proprietors having parliamentary influence, rather than by starving millions having none. Their gifts are to bankrupt landowners—their loans are to the same class—and all their plans to elevate the peasantry are delivered over to these men to be put in force. By a sort of



hocus-pocus, assuming the guise, now of charity, anon of statesmanship, the net result of this series of measures is to be the transference of some millions sterling from the pockets of British tax-payers to those of a ruined Irish proprietary. The drift of the whole scheme is to make our industry pay the piper for their improvidence.

The bills are not yet before us in detail, and we shall have other opportunities of considering them separately. But we cannot allow the opportunity to escape us of pointing out the futility of anticipating other than selfish laws from a legislature consisting almost exclusively of a single class. The triumph of free-trade, through an extraordinary conjuncture of unforeseen circumstances, has induced not a few to regard the existing constitution of our House of Commons, as capable of working in entire harmony with the increased intelligence of the age. The ministerial announcements of last week will, we hope, undeceive them. Step by step, the ground which the landlords lost by the repeal of the corn-laws, they will recover by other and more insidious encroachments. Even if the Ministry meant well, they are without power to give effect to good intentions. And thus it will ever be, so long as the business of law-making remains a monopoly. Parliament will speak one thing—the country another. The cheers inside St. Stephen's find no response beyond its walls—and the common-sense honesty and love of justice which reign outside, are but dimly and glimmeringly reflected within. We shall be at the mercy of the landowners until we have "representation co-extensive with taxation."

#### THE GRAIN MARKETS.

IN confirmation of the views advanced in our last number, with the object of showing the inconclusiveness of the reasoning of those alarmists who anticipate a season of greater scarcity before next harvest than we have yet experienced, we subjoin a few extracts from various journals.

The *Observer* contains the following paragraph on the subject of the stocks of corn in the north:—

"Letters from Northumberland, Durham, and parts of Westmoreland and Cumberland, advise that never were corn stocks so abundant, and that even stacks of old corn (1845) were yet on hand, waiting the highest prices to be obtained, the limit of which was supposed not to be then attained."

The *Bankers' Circular* offers confirmatory evidence on this point, from other parts of the country:—

"When the writer was in Wiltshire last week, he found a little inland retail dealer who held 4,000 sacks of wheat, for whom, in ordinary times, 400 sacks would have been a large stock. There are hundreds, probably thousands, of similar cases to be found on the surface of these islands. We doubt whether this new class of small dealers—new, either absolutely, or in the range of their trading transactions—do not at this instant of time hold, in the aggregate, as large a stock of grain as was customarily held in the month of January by all the old regular corn merchants of the country. But this describes only a part of the spread of the delusion. We found in Wiltshire, as well as in Hampshire, heads of families had recommended their gardeners and out-door servants to lay in stocks of flour for fear of the coming famine: of course they had done so for their own families. Some of these had laid in a six months' stock. There never was so profitable a mania for those who can realize in time, except the railway bubble which burst in October, 1845."

Another correspondent of the same periodical, speaking of the stocks in Lincolnshire, says—

"Wheat, fair average crop (excluding the extraordinary crop of 1844), of superior quality and weight per bushel—some as high as 64lbs. A good many small occupiers have thrashed forward—the majority of large farmers but little at present. Most of what is thrashed has been sold, and our markets (Grantham and Sleaford) have been liberally supplied through the season. There is now very little old corn left belonging to farmers, in either stack or granary; the last month has nearly cleared the old wheat out, though some has been, and is yet, held by speculators, and a little by farmers."

A similar statement is made by a Colchester correspondent of the *Mark Lane Express*:—

"For some weeks previously the quantity of grain in the various markets around here had been large, particularly of wheat, certainly giving no indications of a scarcity of that article in this part of the kingdom; but this week, in all the markets I have attended—at Woodbridge, Bury St. Edmund's, and Stowmarket, in Suffolk, and passing into Herts, in the leading towns in that county, where the markets are held at the latter part of the week—I have found wheat very slowly brought in. The large holders of corn seem to have made a pause, to weigh the circumstances in which they are placed."

The City correspondent of the same journal, speaking of the expected supplies from America, says—

"In a conversation with Captain Chadwick, of the new first-class ship, the Sir Robert Peel (which has just reached the London Docks, and is delivering a varied and most valuable cargo), we were assured that the utmost efforts are making to forward flour to this country. In fact, so large are the quantities in store in the interior of the States, that we hesitate to give an estimate of the supplies that may rapidly come forward by each ship entered in American ports for those of England."

We may observe that both in England and Ireland prices have continued to decline—in Mark-lane, on Monday, to the extent of from 4s. to 5s. per quarter on wheat. No doubt a re-action to some extent will follow, when the effect of the Ministerial measures, and the release of "bread-stuffs," by the suspension of the Corn-laws, are less felt; but, by that time, we anticipate that the continued importations from America, especially in the shape of Indian corn, and the bringing to market of the large supplies which it is now admitted, are held by speculators and farmers at home, will prevent any considerable advances in price.

#### FACTS FOR STATE EDUCATIONISTS.

(From the *Leeds Mercury*.)

We would invite Lord Lincoln, Mr. Ward, Mr. Hume, Mr. Ewart, the *Morning Chronicle*, and other advocates for Government interference, just to glance at the following bare enumeration of *educational movements* made within the last few months, and for the most part still proceeding in this country; and then deliberately and on their consciences to answer whether the Voluntary principle is ineffective. We put the movements down at the moment, as they occur to our minds:—

#### EDUCATIONAL MOVEMENTS, 1846.

National Society every year expending large sums in building schools and training teachers.  
National Society's special effort in 1846 for Wales.  
British and Foreign School Society reports 575 schools opened in four years, for 60,000 scholars. Is now projecting four new Normal Schools.  
Normal Schools established at Brecon.  
Wesleyan Board of Education reports 34,285 children in its day-schools,—increase of 3,599 in 1846. £20,000 raised.  
Wesleyan Training School projected.  
Congregational Board of Education reported in 1846 the raising of £109,286, and the opening of 147 schools for 25,552 children (most of them included among the British Schools).  
Congregational Training School for female teachers opened.  
Free Church of Scotland—project for building 1,000 schools: £100,000 raised.  
Education Movement in Essex—£10,000 raised.  
Do. in Pembrokeshire, nearly 5,000 raised.  
Do. in Carmarthenshire, beginning.  
Do. in Devonshire, £6,000 to be raised.  
Do. in Cambridgeshire.  
Do. in West Kent.  
Rev. Mr. Burgess's project for building 50 schools in a part of the Metropolis.

Ragged Schools in London—upwards of 30, with 3,000 scholars.  
Ragged Schools in Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham, Aberdeen, and other places.  
30 Infant Schools projected in Birmingham.  
Mr. Bagster's project for building Church Schools in Yorkshire.  
The Normal Schools of Battersea, Chelsea, Borough-road, Gray's Inn-road, Glasgow, Edinburgh, York, and several Diocesan Schools, all sending out well-trained teachers.  
The York Yeoman School.  
Mechanics' Institutions, Athenaeums, Libraries, and Schools multiplying everywhere by voluntary effort.

These are what occur to us as we write; but surely they present a satisfactory, nay a splendid view of the activity of the people on behalf of popular education. And whilst education is proceeding at this unparalleled rate, and after what is proved to have been done within the last eight and twenty years, is it not infatuation to call on Government to take upon it the new and dangerous prerogative of directing, supporting, and controlling the education of the people?

WHITTINGTON CLUB.—A quarterly general meeting of the members of this club was held on Monday evening, at the London Tavern, for the purpose of receiving the report of the council. Mr. Jenkin Jones in the chair. The report stated that the council had partly agreed for premises in Gresham-street, built upon the Whittington estate, at a rental of £500 a year, for the purposes of the city branch of the club, to which for the present the council thought it judicious to confine themselves, leaving the west-end branch for future consideration; but the negotiation for this building, which was quite a new one, was still pending. 900 members had already joined the club, 400 of whom joined since the last general meeting, and Mr. Douglas Jerrold had consented to become president of the club, and numbers of other distinguished male and female literary characters had agreed also to join the club as vice-presidents, amongst whom were Mrs. Mary Howitt and Mr. W. Howitt, Miss Cushman, Dr. Southwood Smith, &c. To defray the expense of opening the club, it was intended to raise a sum of £1,000 on loan notes, bearing interest at five per cent., and a considerable amount had already been advanced by members of the council towards that sum. It was intended in the course of the present month to hold a *soirée* of the members of the club, at the London Tavern, for which purpose Messrs. Bathe and Breach, the proprietors, had handsomely offered an elegant suite of apartments free of all expense [cheers]. Mr. Douglas Jerrold would preside on that occasion, and several eminent vocalists had offered their services for that night. The report, after some short discussion, was agreed to, after which auditors were appointed, and the members of the council as named in the report re-elected, and thanks having been voted to the chairman, the meeting separated.

CORPORATION REFORM.—A Court of Aldermen was held on Tuesday, to consider Mr. Alderman Humphrey's motion to extend the franchise in the election of Aldermen and Common Councillors. Alderman Humphrey stated that the objects of his proposition: he proposed to throw open the franchise to all persons paying scot and bearing lot in the City of London, whether they were freemen or not; and to limit the duration of the elections to one day. The motion found a seconder in Mr. Alderman Wilson. Alderman Hughes moved, and Sir Peter Laurie seconded, an amendment for the appointment of a Committee of the whole Court, to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill for the purpose. But the original motion was carried, by a majority of twelve to five; and so the Court of Aldermen commenced reforming themselves.

BENEFITS FROM TELEGRAPHIC COMMUNICATION.—During the past week a vessel grounded in the Humber, and was in danger of being wrecked. To save her, very prompt assistance was requisite; and the aid of a powerful screw propeller being required, the telegraph from Hull made known the want at Newcastle-on-Tyne, and by the first train the much-needed screw was forthcoming, and thus property was saved by this prompt assistance, exceeding in value considerably £1,000.

#### THE MIDDLESEX ELECTION AND THE ENDOWMENT OF THE IRISH CATHOLIC PRIESTHOOD.

A correspondence has been published between Lord R. Grosvenor and Mr. H. Hoare, relative to his lordship's views concerning the endowment by the state of the Irish Catholic priests. Lord R. Grosvenor expresses himself rather vaguely on the subject, but the inference generally drawn is that he would support such a proposition were it submitted to Parliament as a Government measure. In his rejoinder to Lord Robert's letter, Mr. Hoare says, in depreciation of any support of Popery—

We dare not close our eyes to the tremendous fact that a visitation of the most fearful kind has recently been sent upon the empire; and that its commencement was seen to take place at the very time when, and in the very place where, a national recognition and encouragement of Popery had just been given. Except among men who do not even profess a belief in the Scriptures, and who, consequently, deride the idea of a superintending Providence, it might have been expected that the strange proximity of the Act of 1845, and the judgment of 1845, 46, and 47, would at least have given rise to a degree of doubt and hesitation: though beyond this feeling of doubt and hesitation, we refrain from advancing any expression of sentiment.

He concludes by expressing a belief that to the proposal of such a measure the people of England and Scotland and a large part of Ireland would offer a most determined opposition. Mr. Hoare avers that these sentiments are shared, in different degrees, by so many of the electors as to make it doubtful whether the relation with the constituency into which Lord Robert Grosvenor proposes to enter can be permanent.

#### THE COMMITTEE OF DEPUTIES.

The deputation appointed to confer with Lord Robert Grosvenor met him at the British Coffee-house, on Friday, the 29th ult. There were present, the Chairman, and Messrs. Offor and A. Pellatt. Mr. Wilks, Mr. Hankey, and Mr. D. W. Wire were prevented by other engagements or indisposition from accompanying them. In reply to the inquiries of the deputation, his lordship said:—"He had represented the city of Chester for several years, and had received many proofs of confidence from the Dissenting portion of his constituents, and for whom he entertained great respect. He had supported in Parliament the repeal of the Test and Corporation Acts, the removal of Roman Catholic Disabilities, the Registration and Marriage Acts, and other measures in favour of civil and religious liberty. He was himself a member of the Church of England, and cordially supported it, and, at the same time, thought that during the time the Church of England was slumbering, the Dissenters had rendered great services to religion, and had risen into importance, and deserved consideration." On the question of the endowment of the Irish Roman Catholic priesthood, he referred to his letter to Mr. Hoare, which he thought Mr. Hoare had misconstrued, and whose mis-statements he should take an opportunity of correcting:—

He approved of the endowment of the Roman Catholic priesthood in Canada, and of other religious bodies in the colonies generally, and was prepared to extend such, and whenever a necessity could be established. He regretted that, in the settlement of the tithe question in Ireland, so large a deduction had been allowed to the clamours of the Irish landlords, which would have been a useful fund for promoting the moral welfare of that country. He thought there might be circumstances in which he should be disposed to provide for the maintenance of public funds of the Roman Catholic priesthood in Ireland, as the ministers of a very large and poor population, and with very inadequate means of support. He did not think the question likely to be brought under discussion in Parliament either in the present or in the next session of Parliament, either by Lord J. Russell, Sir R. Peel, or Lord Stanley.

#### Government education:—

He thought there was no plan for directly effecting the object of the general education of the lower classes which could be adopted by Government, in the present state of public feeling and differences of religious opinion; nor could Government promote secular education apart from religious instruction. He had paid attention to the Prussian and American systems, but did not think them applicable to England. At present, it would be expedient to employ the agency of the National and of the British and Foreign School Societies, and greatly to increase the grants of money to them.

#### Ecclesiastical Courts:—

His lordship regarded the Ecclesiastical Courts as relics of a superstitious age. Some arrangement was necessary for the safe custody of wills, but their jurisdiction over moral offences was quite obsolete, and should be dispensed with.

#### Church-rates:—

Church-rates are a burden upon land, and a useful check upon the neglect of the clergy, as a vestry might refuse a rate if it pleased. Where there was a diligent clergyman, there was no difficulty in obtaining a Church-rate. He thought the plea of conscientious objection had been employed with very little propriety.

#### Ecclesiastical grants:—

As to votes of public money for ecclesiastical purposes, he thought the endowments of the Church of England were sufficiently ample, and that it was inexpedient to augment them.

The deputation disclaimed sympathy with Mr. Hoare and his friends in opposition to endowing the Irish Roman Catholic priesthood on merely religious grounds, and stated that Protestant Dissenters were conscientiously opposed to Romanism, but without hostility to Romanists. They resisted endowments to the Roman Catholic priesthood on the same ground, of its general injustice, as they would resist endowments to any other class of religionists. They wished for no relief for themselves, or any civil immunity, which they would not willingly share with all their fellow-subjects. They had petitioned for the removal of Roman Catholic disabilities, and had also petitioned Parliament to withhold the miserable pittance of *Regium Donum* to English Protestant Dissenters, and were equally averse to the *Regium Donum* in Ireland. The deputation retired, regretting the difference of opinion between his lordship and the body they represented, but abundantly satisfied with the courtesy and candour of his lordship's demeanour.

## FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

## UNITED STATES AND MEXICO.

By late arrivals from the United States, we learn that the President had transmitted to Congress a message, recommending the appointment of a Lieutenant-General to the armies of the Republic. In Congress, the House had rejected a bill containing propositions to the effect that the President receive from the Treasury 30,000,000 dollars for the purpose of taking measures to secure a peace with Mexico, whenever it is deemed compatible to secure such peace by an offer for renewed negotiations—that, in any territory which may be secured to the United States from Mexico, slavery shall be for ever prohibited—and that the sum of 20,000,000 dollars may be appropriated towards securing the result of any settlement of boundary, and securing any territory which may be the result of negotiation between the two countries. The President's message had given offence to the military committee of Congress (not having been previously communicated to it), and was, in consequence, laid on the table by the House of Representatives. But, on the following day, the House was induced to rescind its vote, though only by a majority of eighty-six to eighty-four, and to take the message into consideration. On the 7th, the House passed a bill to encourage enlistment. The Mexican war is becoming unpopular.

Accounts from the seat of war are of considerable interest. It is stated that Santa Anna had concentrated a force of 37,000 men at San Luis Potosi, and had marched eight days of the journey from San Luis to Saltillo. A courier had arrived in the camp from Mexico with news that a *pronunciamiento* had taken place, and that Herrera had driven Almonte from the city. In consequence of this intelligence, Santa Anna had detached seven regiments of infantry to put down the insurrection. Accounts from Tampico state that an attack which was repulsed had been made on that town by a body of 7,000 Mexican cavalry.

## SPAIN.

**CHANGE OF MINISTRY.**—The *Journal des Débats* announces, that on the 21st inst., at Madrid, M. Castro y Orozco had been elected president of the congress by 111 votes against 93 obtained by M. Bravo Murillo. The Ministry had tendered its resignation, and the Queen had immediately charged the Duke of Sotomayor with the formation of a new cabinet. M. de Sotomayor had offered M. Bravo Murillo the department of justice, which he accepted. He then applied to M. Mon, and requested him to retain the direction of the finance department, which the latter declined. This refusal deranged all the previous plans. The Queen sent for M. Mon, and endeavoured, it is said, to overcome his resistance, but in vain, and the Duke of Sotomayor was obliged to resign the task. The Queen then sent for M. Castro y Orozco, who had a conference with MM. Bravo Murillo and Pacheco. It was supposed that he would form an Administration composed of three members of the Pacheco faction and as many of the Bravo Murillo faction, in which the chiefs of neither should enter, under the presidency of the Marquis de Miraflores.

## FRANCE.

By the Paris papers of Thursday we find that the documents respecting the Spanish marriage, laid upon the table of the House of Commons, have created an intense sensation in Paris. The effect of these documents has been to open the eyes of the French public to the full extent of the baseness of its Government throughout the transaction. With the exception of the Ministerial papers, which preserve a guarded silence, the whole of the Paris press are loud in denouncing the conduct of M. Guizot. The project of law, authorizing the free importation of corn into France, until the 31st of July next, was adopted, on Wednesday, by the Chamber of Peers, without a single dissenting voice.

The public was startled on Monday by the appearance of an article in the *Portefeuille*, a semi-official organ of the Cabinet, the tendency of which was to demonstrate the impossibility that France could preserve her isolation, and to show that a reconciliation with England was indispensable. The conclusion more than implied by this semi-official organ of the Court and Cabinet is that M. Guizot must resign, if by his retirement the great international object of reconciliation with England could be effected.

Corn continues to rise in every part of France, and the popular excitement, and consequent *émeutes*, are unrepressed; or, if repressed in one quarter, break out in another. Flour in the Paris market has risen to 58f. 67c., and the consequent price of bread for the first fortnight of February will be 51c. per kilogramme, being equal to 2d. per pound, or tenpence for the common four-pound loaf.

## FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

**THE CHURCH IN ITALY.**—The *Daily News* mentions a rumour of a most hazardous step contemplated by Austria to retrieve the expenses incurred in Galicia. Austria wants a loan: Baron Rothschild is difficult, and demands good security; and the rumour in question "is to the purport, that the estates and other endowments of the pious and charitable institutions of Lombardy and Venice are to be sequestered for the use of the State. Debentures, bearing interest, are to be given to the Italians in lieu of the munificent donations of their fathers."

**ANTI-SLAVERY MOVEMENT IN DELAWARE.**—There is quite an extensive and powerful sentiment awakened against the continuance of slavery in Delaware. A Wilmington paper says that petitions are in circulation, recommending the Legislature to abolish slavery on fair and equitable terms. The paper very quietly adds— "We have heretofore said that no other measure would conduce so much to the prosperity of little Delaware. A tide of emigration would set in here to buy up and improve our old and worn-out lands, and the million acres supposed to be contained in Delaware would be worth more than five millions of dollars more as soon as such a law is passed. Our interests require it.

There are only about two thousand slaves in Delaware."—*New York Evangelist.*

**CAPTURE OF A SLAVER.**—A letter from Sierra Leone, dated the 15th December, reports that on the 1st, the Queen's brig Cygnet brought in as a prize the Brazilian brig Paquito do Rio, of seventy tons burden, with 549 slaves on board. The capture was made off Sherbro'. Many of the poor slaves were chained by iron rods passed through iron rings fastened round their necks. Together with the slaves, numbering 549, were the passengers and crew, about thirty, making in all about 579 human beings packed in a small vessel of only seventy tons.

**A MISSIONARY CHIEF MAGISTRATE.**—We learn with surprise that the Rev. Mr. Calderwood, of the London Missionary Society, has been appointed chief magistrate of the Anglo-Kafir territory—that is, the territory between the boundary of the ceded territory and the Buffalo river, which is intended, it seems, to be the future boundary of Caffreland. Of the fitness of this gentleman for the office, we are not a competent judge. He is an upright man, and will probably be more useful as a magistrate than he was as a missionary. But the appointment will not give satisfaction to the public, who think that no missionary should assume a political character.—*Cape Frontier Times.*

There were at Galatz (Moldavia), on the 4th Jan., 300 cargoes of corn ready for shipment, chiefly to England, and 100 more were expected from the interior by the time the navigation should be re-opened.

**HAYTI.**—The *New York Sun* describes the new constitution adopted in Hayti. It is partly monarchical and partly republican, and was partly the work of France. The President is elected for life; the Legislature for nine years; the Catholic religion the religion of the country; and no white man to become a citizen, hold office, or own real estate."

**MR. COBDEN AT GENOA.**—On Saturday, Jan. 16, the native and English residents of Genoa entertained Mr. Cobden at the Hotel Feder, where sixty five guests assembled. The Marchese Alezio presided, having the illustrious guest on his right hand. The French Consul proposed Mr. Cobden's health. In returning thanks, he paid an elegant compliment to the commercial fame of Genoa, and its privilege of being the birth-place of Columbus. The *Morning Chronicle* says, it is suspected that he was obliged to submit his speech to the authorities before he could deliver it—its tone is very guarded. He is gone with his wife to Leghorn and Rome.

**PRUSSIA.**—**THE CONSTITUTION.**—The *Gazette des Postes de Francfort* gives the following, dated Berlin, Jan. 21st:—"It is now certain that the constitution of the Prussian states will be remodelled, by the re-union of the eight assemblies of provincial states at Berlin, which will be convoked at intervals of two years, under the title of the general states. It is said that the King signed the decree of convocation, Jan. 2nd, and that the general states, composed of 568 members, will assemble, for the first time, in the course of next April."

**CASUALTY AT SEA.**—Intelligence has been received at Liverpool by the Lady Falkland, Captain Smith, arrived in that port from New Orleans, that on the 18th inst. she fell in with the New York packet-ship Columbia, in distress, having on the 13th lost overboard the captain (Rathbone), first and second mates, five seamen, and a boy, while scudding in a heavy gale. The Lady Falkland put her mate on board, to navigate the Columbia.

**A NEW VERSION OF ALI BABA.**—**A CONCEALED ROBBER.**—On Monday, says the *Siecle*, the following audacious attempt was made at a small estaminet near the Boulevard. In the course of the day, two men in blouses entered with an enormous case, on which was inscribed in large characters, "Vin de Champagne," "Fragile." Having each taken a cup of coffee, they requested the mistress of the house to permit them to leave their case, as they had a long way to go before they delivered it. She gave her consent, and they took their departure. Midnight came, but the men did not return. The commander of the patrol coming in to enforce the regulations for closing the house for the night, and being made acquainted with the history of the case, conceived suspicions that all was not right, and insisted upon having the case opened. The lid was taken off, and, instead of being filled with bottles of Champagne, a man armed with a poniard was brought forth. Finding resistance or evasion hopeless, he at once confessed that, in the middle of the night, he was to come out and open the door to his comrades, and then rob the house of the 6,000f. or 7,000f. it was believed to contain. Reinforcements were sent for from the post at the Chateau d'Eu, and measures were so well taken that four men were at last secured, three of them being well-known old convicts.

**THE GREAT BRITAIN.**—We have been favoured (says the *Dundee Advertiser*), with the following extract of a letter from James Bremner, Esq., civil engineer, Wick, to a gentleman in this quarter:—"I left the Great Britain in charge of Captain Claxton, the managing director, who is stuffing her larboard quarter with faggots, brushwood, sand bags, and chains, and bolts, &c. It is Mr. Brunel's plan, and I am not sure of its effects; but I hope there will be no danger of her until April, when I expect to commence operations to raise her. She has quarried down six feet of the solid rock, and turned it up like a plough, forward. There are four feet of sand above the rock—in all, ten to ten and a half feet. She must be raised thirteen feet perpendicular height, and then her bottom patched, launched, and taken probably to Liverpool; but if possible to Bristol by two steamers. The sand now in her, which the water is over, will make her fully 3,000 tons' weight, so that you see the lift will be no joke."

It is proposed to establish a Ragged-school at Stockport. The various Sunday-schools of the town provide education for 10,264 out of a population of 50,495. The *National Intelligencer*, a Washington paper, contains an article tracing, in Mr. Polk's war policy, slow but sure steps to a monarchy.

## ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

**REPRESENTATION OF MANCHESTER.**—The Right Hon. T. M. Gibson, M.P., and Mr. John Bright, M.P., met the electors of Manchester in the Free-trade Hall on Wednesday last. The spacious hall was crowded to excess with persons admitted by ticket—about nine thousand. George Wilson, Esq., occupied the chair, and announced 6,056 pledges for the candidates now present, exclusive of "favourables," "waverers," and "doubtfuls" [cheers]. The Right Hon. Milner Gibson, on presenting himself, was received with repeated bursts of cheering. He declared his intention was to stand again, his wish to be returned again [cheers]; that he was willing, in the canvass, to follow any course which the great body of the Liberal electors thought necessary to ensure the success of the Liberal cause [loud cheers]. But could he have a moment's hesitation in the matter, when it was proposed to select, as the other candidate in the same interest, his hon. friend, Mr. Bright? The right hon. member addressed the meeting at some length. He defended his vote on the Maynooth grant, on the ground that it was strictly for educational purposes; but he added that, if it was meant to be inferred that he was committed to the endowment of priests, a very hasty conclusion was drawn, for that the principle on which he would act, politically speaking, was that of religious equality, and that he thought, as a matter of policy, that it was neither prudent nor just that the State should ally itself with any religious order whatever. The shouts with which this declaration was received (says the *Manchester Times*) must have shown Mr. Gibson that the electors of Manchester were firmly opposed to that sort of policy which would make any religious sect dependent upon State aid. John Bright, Esq., M.P., who was loudly called for, then came forward, and was received with the greatest enthusiasm. The hon. member addressed the meeting at considerable length, condemning the law of primogeniture, and delivering his sentiments freely on several public questions of the day. In reply to a question from Mr. Hadfield, Mr. Gibson declared that he would not support any proposition to add to the ecclesiastical votes in the House of Lords, and would not be a party to putting any addition to the burthens of the tax-payers of England for the support of a Bishop of Manchester. Mr. Bright was of the same mind. The meeting, after being addressed by John Brooks, Esq., and William Rawson, Esq., broke up a few minutes before eleven o'clock.

**THE BRISTOL ANTI-STATE-CHURCH ELECTORAL ASSOCIATION AND THE HON. F. H. F. BERKELEY, M.P.**—We have received a copy of a tract published by this active Society, containing a second address to the Nonconformist electors of Bristol, and embodying a correspondence between Robert Norris, Esq., and Mr. A. Stone, minister, the secretaries, with the Hon. F. H. F. Berkeley, M.P. for the city. We may mention that the Society consists at present of thirty-eight members. The substance of the hon. member's answer to their communication is as follows:—

My opinions are, that, as all religion should arise from a voluntary principle, so should the payment of its professors; but, in this country, where so much property is invested in the Church, I certainly decline any pledge to attempt the upsetting of an establishment, the consequences of which, and the effects produced on the British empire, I am utterly unable to foresee.

On receipt of this reply, the following resolution was adopted:—

That the replies of the Hon. F. H. F. Berkeley to our inquiries relative to his opinions on the State-church question, are highly unsatisfactory. That in consequence of his expressed opinion of the inexpediency of the separation of Church and State, and his refusal to inform us of the view he takes of (so-called) Church property, and to give us a more full and specific statement of his opinions, it is our deliberate judgment that the Hon. F. H. F. Berkeley is an unfit person to represent Anti-state-churchmen in the House of Commons; and that an address be prepared to the Nonconformist electors of Bristol, stating the reasons for this opinion, and urging upon them the duty of withholding their votes from him at the next election.

The tract concludes with a forcible appeal to the Dissenting electors. We should like to have inserted the whole of the correspondence and the address in our columns, but the large demands upon our space at present forbid it. We commend the active zeal of the Bristol Anti-state-church Electoral Association to the attention of the friends of the cause throughout the country.

**NORWICH.**—At a meeting of the electors of the second ward in this city, J. H. Tillett, Esq., in the chair, we learn from the *Norfolk News* that the following resolution was unanimously adopted:—"That the electors present protest against any arrangement being made, in reference to the candidates at the next general election, without the concurrence of the Liberal electors at a public meeting, to be convened for that purpose. That the compromise effected at the last general election was a violation of the constitutional rights of the electors, and that it is desirable that measures should be taken to prevent a repetition of such proceedings." It was then agreed that Messrs. J. H. Tillett, James Newbegin, T. Colman, J. B. Hart, S. Olley, J. W. Clarke, and J. Bright, be appointed as a committee, on behalf of the second ward, to co-operate in carrying out the foregoing resolution.

**WEST SUSSEX.**—A vacancy has occurred in the representation of this division of the county by the resignation of Colonel Charles Wyndham. The only candidate as yet announced is Richard Prime, Esq., of Wolverton, who comes forward under the auspices of the Duke of Richmond and the Protectionists.

**LEICESTER.**—Mr. John Biggs has addressed a letter to the Chairman of the General and other Election Committees, declining the offer made to him a year ago of the representation of this borough.

**MIDDLESEX ELECTION.**—The election of a Knight of the Shire for the county of Middlesex, in the room of the late George Byng, Esq., will take place at Brentford, this day. It is not probable that there will be any opposition.

CHESTER ELECTION.—On Saturday morning the constituency of Chester elected Hugh Lupus, Earl Grosvenor, to represent the borough in Parliament, in the room of Lord Robert Grosvenor, resigned to stand for Middlesex.

SALISBURY.—The election at Salisbury took place on Monday week, when Mr. Chaplin, chairman of the South-Western, was elected to serve in Parliament for that city. Mr. C. B. Wall having stated his intention to reserve his opposition till the general election, and Mr. Martin having retired, Mr. Chaplin "walked over the course."

MR. GEORGE THOMPSON has been invited to stand for Lambeth, in the room of Mr. Tennyson D'Eyncourt, who has contradicted the report that he means to retire.

GLASGOW.—We believe there exists but one opinion amongst the Dissenting electors of this city, that the gentlemen who at present occupy seats in St. Stephen's, in name of the community, shall no longer be permitted to do violence to their strongly cherished convictions on the great question of endowments—if their influence can be of any avail to prevent it.—*Glasgow Times*.

#### AN OLIVE LEAF FOR THE ENGLISH PEOPLE.

##### OCEAN PENNY POSTAGE.

There is a magnificent sense in which Britannia may "rule the wave." There is a beneficent dominion which the world would gratefully accord to her canvas. There is a position which she might assume toward all nations of men, in which her flag would be hailed with all the gladness of the heart and home affections, along every shore. The islands of the far-off ocean would clap their hands for joy at the sight of her winged messengers, and the whole world would bless her, and be blessed by her beneficence. Let her obey the law written in her constitution, and registered in the statutes of her anatomy. Providence has made her the heart of the world, in every sense of moral, intellectual, and physical existence and location. She occupies nearly the same relative position between the two hemispheres, between the two worlds, as the heart occupies between the two hemispheres or divisions of the human body. She has all the organic functions of life and action requisite to fit her for this vital relation to the rest of the world. Her faculties of communication with the extreme members of the human family, are scarcely less exquisite, and varied, and efficient, than those by which the heart communicates life and will to the extreme members of the human system. As in the latter, radical heat is the basis of life and action, so it is the same in the former. Without descending far from a legitimate figure, there is an unfailing source of *radical heat* in the island of Great Britain, which qualifies her to establish this vital communication with "the uttermost corners of the earth." Her mineral resources are inexhaustible; and they are all of a virtuous character; such as stimulate and develop industry. The cankered curse of gold or of silver has not been deposited under her soil to eclipse, with baneful sheen, the duller light of better metals. No stones more precious than those of iron ore, have been found within her borders, to impoverish her sons with bad ambition for the non-productive wealth of crowns and regal caskets. The fires that nightly reddens her mountain-tops, and shoot their lurid glare athwart the drooping clouds, glow not in vain in the economy of her heart-relation to the world. The *five thousand tons of iron* which these artificial craters send forth daily, all shaped for human purposes, are bridging continental rivers, and strapping countries together with those iron bonds of brotherhood—the railway bars; countries once divided and desolated by steel of murderous edge. And underneath gigantic arches of English iron, spanning rivers running through tribes of different tongues, into Oriental seas, huge steamers hiss, and hurl from their path a yid'ing wave at every stroke of their English enginery, propelled by the volcanic energy of furnaces fed with English coal. Five hundred tons of this mineral fuel, it is said, are daily consumed on the swift-rolling Danube alone. And all the way to "the extremest Inde," these two elements of England's organic wealth attest what they can do to the partition walls of space in the steamship's fiery, foaming, midnight wake. The great rivers of the eastern world are stirred half-way to their sources by these new Leviathans. They are laying their banks with an upward flow, under the mighty pulsation of the English steam-engine. English coal and iron are the spirit, bone, and muscle of the socializing agencies now working to bring the world's extremes into amicable neighbourhood. See what they have done to narrow down the barrier which once made two worlds! They have bridged the Atlantic with keels that wait not for favouring winds, until there is "no more sea," in the sense of division, between the two hemispheres. A hundred years ago, Edinburgh and London were as far apart, by the measure of time, as Liverpool and Boston now. English coal and iron have laid the bars of nine thousand miles of railway in the New World, and nearly twice as many more in the Old; which, if linked in one continuous track, would girdle the earth at its equator with a race-course for the Iron Horse.

And the Iron Horse—a word for him, of Saxon stock; for it matters not where he is stabled or harnessed for his mission—whether to thunder through Siberian wastes with Nicholas's ukase, or from Cairo to Timbuctoo with a message from Ibrahim Pasha, or from Thibet to Calcutta on a commercial errand—he will show his Saxon pedigree, and his Saxon groom and rider. Where he goes, there will go the English language, and the genius of the English race. From the far, still depths of Central Asia, he will bring London-ward letters in the English tongue—letters to English churches, and then to English manufacturers and bankers; and then new furnaces and forges will illuminate the hills and clouds of Wales with their midnight glow, and the tall factory chimneys of Lancashire and Yorkshire will thicken to a forest, and labyrinths of busy, bee-winged machinery will be added to the looms and spindles plying now. And the Iron Horse will shake the sombre solitudes of barbarism with his giant tread, and run to and fro, and whistle to strange tribes of men to come out of their dens, and caves, and

forest lairs, into the sunlight and sympathy of civilization, and to change their beast or bird-skin garments for those of fine-spun wool and cotton. And at every place where he stops for fuel-food, he will drop a Christian missionary, and teachers of the English tongue; and, returning, will bring in his saddle-bags more letters for Bibles, and for bales of cloth and clothing.

The irresistible genius and propagation of the English race are fast *Anglicizing* the world, and thus centering it around the heart of civilization and commerce. Under the sceptre of England alone there live, it is said, one hundred and forty millions of human beings, embracing all races of men, dwelling between every two degrees of latitude and longitude around the globe. And there is the Anglo-American hemisphere of the English race, doubling its population every twenty-five years, and propelling its propagation through the western world. And there is the English language, colonized, not only by Christian missions, but by commerce, in every port, on every shore, accessible to an English keel. The heathen of China or the Eastern Inde, whilst buying sandal-wood for incense to their deities from English or American merchantmen, or trafficking for poisonous drugs; the sable savages that come out of the depths of Africa to barter on the seaboard their glittering sands, their ivory, ostrich feathers, or apes, for articles of English or American manufacture; the Red Indians of North and South America, as they come from their hunting grounds in the deep wilderness to sell their spoils to English or American fur companies; the swarthy inhabitants of the ocean islands, as they run to the beach to greet the American whale-ship or the English East Indiaman, bringing their yams and curious ware to sell to the pale-faced foreigners; all these carry back to their kind and kindred rude lessons in the English language—the meaning of home and household words of the strong, old Saxon tongue, each of which links its possessor to the magnetic chain of English civilization.

What, then, should England do to bring all nations of men within the range of the vital functions of that heart-relation which she sustains to the world?

Answer: Let her establish an OCEAN PENNY POSTAGE. ELIHU BURRITT.

London, January 25th, 1847.

#### CELEBRATION OF THE BIRTHDAY OF ROBERT BURNS AT JEDBURGH.

(From a Correspondent).

This annual entertainment, which has been noticed in this paper on former occasions, took place at Jedburgh on the evening of the 25th ult. Upwards of one hundred persons of both sexes sat down to tea, and other refreshments. Various addresses were delivered on subjects more or less connected with the theme of the evening. We were glad to see so many evidences of the influence of the present literature at work, bearing as it does so much upon the vindication of, and sympathy with, the many. Soirées are a happy conception, and suit the wants of the present age admirably. The wall of partition is broken down, and woman is admitted on terms of equality with her monopolizing lord. Some may affect a sneer at celebrating the birth-day of Robert Burns without the presence of alcoholic stimulants, but it is most consistent to act with regard to the feelings of regret at the source of many of the poet's errors; and the real admirers of his genius need no bacchanalian revelry to add to the inspiration of a festive occasion, in which the better elements of his life and writings are done honour to. Robert Burns imperfectly realized that standard of life which is held essential in a poet of the people at the present day, yet he gave birth to sentiments and sturdy acts of independence which, wedded to the music of his unrivalled song, will clothe his name for ages "in proof eterné" in the eyes of his countrymen. The world will not let him "all die" so long as the advancing tide of public opinion proclaims that

"The rank is but the guinea stamp—

"The man's the gou'd for a' that."

The principle of human brotherhood is now an idea dawning above the dark ages of prejudice, and war influence, and antipathies between nations. The Emersons and the Burritts are coming to tell that "all men shall yet be lovers." Yet no poet of his time, or even of a much more undefined period, has so clearly enunciated the principle of brotherhood among all men, and tribes, and people, as the despised Ploughman. He spoke with the strong ken of his warm heart and giant intellect when he exclaimed,

"Then let us pray that come it may,

"An' come it will for a' that;

"That man to man the warl' o'er

"Shall brothers be, an' a' that."

To utter such sentiments at a period when, as Elliot says, "damn the French" was prayer and praise, exposed the poet to the jealousy of the Tory Government of his day. The writer of this knows of an occasion in which the yeomanry of a district were assembled at a public dinner, when some foolhardy wight, with a spice of nature's Jacobinism in him, in giving a song, struck up this brave lit of the "Peasant of the Doon," but the frowns and bursts of proscription which followed from the nabobs who had a share in keeping up the constitution as "the envy of surrounding nations," told him he had ventured just far enough. At the *soirée* on the evening of the 25th, a long poetical address was delivered by James Scott, prentice blacksmith, Lanton, by Jedburgh, in which he reviewed the principal events of the past year, and their influence on the cause of human progress.

We will extract a few lines relating to the death of Haydon:—

"O Genius, is it thus thy sons must end?  
Does death prove true when falls each other friend?  
The man who all his life in spirit land  
Walked with the beautiful, sublime, and grand;  
Who his fine fancies full disclosed to view,  
In all the poetry of form and hue;  
Who all the various passions of the breast  
Bade on the glowing canvas ever rest,  
Yet amid all the ideal glory placed,  
Those grand creations that his pencil traced,  
Was forced to feel necessity's stern truth,  
That finest fancies cannot fill the mouth.  
'Mid all the lustre that his triumphs shed,  
Driven to despair and death for want of bread!

Alas! poor Haydon—we could weep for thee;  
Britain, he's thine?—behold his family!

The noble mission of the true pacifier, Elihu Burritt, comes in for its share of our village blacksmith's sympathy. Alluding to the good spirits who interposed their appeal against war during the suspense connected with the Oregon dispute:—

"Mong these good genii, one whose active zeal  
And tireless efforts we must not conceal;  
Who from beneath his smithy's dingy eaves  
Daily sent fo th th doves and olive leaves.

• • • • •  
Born in the sunny world beyond the sea,  
Hail, Burritt, hail! with joy we welcome thee!  
Hail! for thou art one of ourselves; thy class  
Is the great multitude—the people mass.  
No pompous bulletin, no cannon's roar;  
Traversed the wide lakes or the prairies o'er;  
No bells, no music, broke the calm of morn  
To tell the infant Elihu was born!  
No lordly feasting in large crowded halls;  
Who cared for thea beyond thy father's walls?  
Thy father's smiles, thy father's children's mirth,  
Were all thy welcome to the poor man's hearth.  
The shoemaker thanked God for thee, while he  
Mann'd his strong heart for soror toil with glee.  
Not one of all thy bustling, busy kind,  
Deem'd in that moment a great master mind  
Was born into the world, destined to guide  
The van of progress through the nations wide.

• • • • •  
He was a double worker. While his arm  
Hammer'd the iron, scorching, burning warm,  
His heart upon the anvil of his mind  
Forged great and glowing thoughts for all his kind.  
At once from both his anvils round him flew  
The glowing spark, and warming lustre threw.  
Who, after Burritt, dares the lying deed  
Of saying he's not time to think or read?"

The champions of free-trade receive their meed of praise, including Cobden, Bright, and Peel. We will conclude with one more extract referring to the peaceful triumph of the Anti-corn-law Movement:—

"It was the mind of the great multitude  
That swept the country like a torrent flood;  
Before whose irresistible strong power  
Nothing can stand—not e'er oppression's tower.  
Type of all wars that will be fought at last  
In the good future that is coming fast.  
When men will fight with reason's arms alone,  
And with their might all victories will be won;  
When no more murder'd thousands at her feet  
Shall heap the footstool of God's mercy seat;  
When brothers' blood no more shall be made rise  
By man to God, a godless sacrifice;  
Nor Jesus shall be told to wash with it  
From earth the marks of his-peace pilgrim feet."

#### AFFAIRS OF JAMAICA.

##### THE SUGAR DUTIES BILL AND REDUCTION OF EXPENDITURE—ECCLESIASTICAL BURDENS—COOLIE IMMIGRATION—EVANGELICAL ALLIANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Montego Bay, Jamaica, Dec. 21, 1846.

Since last writing to you, all the excitement consequent on the equalization of "sugar duties" has risen up, and died away. Some few have endeavoured to make a great noise about the injustice that has been perpetrated by the Home Government, but the majority have resolutely busied themselves with the inquiry, "What's to be done now?" In short, it will soon appear that the abolition of protection was the *one desideratum* for the advance and establishment of the commercial prosperity of the island. It is, nevertheless, true that some estates have been madly thrown up without an effort; whilst on many others great difficulty has been experienced in consequence of the planters' determination to throw all the burden upon the labourers, who are as determined not to bear it. For awhile the evils apparently resulting from the change may increase and become yet more insurmountable. But the issue will prove that the old systems cannot longer exist, and that it would have been far better if something similar had happened twenty years ago to put an end to them. However strange it may appear, it is no less true, that till within the last month only, have I seen such a thing as a wheel-barrow employed in the removal of stones, soil, or other material, excepting here and there about a dwelling, and that in towns. The machine employed is commonly a small *tray*, about the size of the knife-tray your butler uses; and this, after being filled with the fingers, is demurely carried on the head to the place where its contents are wanted. One wheel-barrow is *at last* found capable of carrying twenty such cargoes! Thanks to the Sugar Duties Bill for the instruction! And this is but one case out of a hundred such that might be mentioned to prove that the planters of Jamaica have been utterly blind to their own interests, and would continue so if necessity were not laid upon them. The simplest improvements in the world, and such as are witnessed almost everywhere else, would at once yield to the employer ten times the amount of work without taxing another muscle of the labourer he hires.

On the subject of expenditure and taxation, the House of Assembly has also been a little awakened. Retrenchment has now commenced, although it is pretty evident that there has been more noise than work, and that the burden they have laid on men's shoulders in the shape of ecclesiastical expenditure, albeit 'tis too heavy to be borne, they will not touch (save in pretence) with one of their fingers. Their clergy law has but recently been passed, and that for the lengthened term of fourteen years, instead of seven. By the way, this has made Jamaica a delightsome land for clergymen! One of these gentry expressed the exuberance of his bliss by flourishing on his copy of the act "Hurrah for Queen Victoria!" and, with this grateful apostrophe, it was lent for perusal to a friend with whom I am familiar. There is, nevertheless, abundant room in this particular for the genius of economy to show itself; for, whilst the average *annual* ecclesiastical expenditure of this little island, from 1836 to 1840 inclusive, was no less than £13,951 13s. 11d., it was increased, from 1841 to 1845 inclusive, to the terrible sum of £26,915 2s. 7d., *apart from the parochial expenditure for the same purpose*,

which is now £19,416 4s. 2d., where it was formerly but about £11,000. The public and parochial disbursements for Church purposes alone is, therefore, £46,331 6s. 9d. By how much will this be reduced in the course of twelve months?

Coolie importation has also been noticed, and it is to proceed no further. Seven thousand immigrants have been brought from different parts of the world, at a cost of £139,417 9s. 2d., and at last it is confessed, "all to no purpose." The only object, as a planter lately assured me, for which these immigrants were desired was, "that every estate might be supplied with about thirty of them, with which, as they were bound by indentures, they could hold out for three months together against the negroes, until they brought them to their own terms." In fact, there are few estates that can employ more than thirty labourers for one half of the year, whilst at other periods they require some hundreds. But the futility of every attempt at *coercion* under such circumstances is becoming daily more apparent, whilst the wickedness and folly of the immigration scheme is seen by all.

The reduction of the salaries of public officers is the most common topic of the day. There is little doubt that something useful will be done in this respect; and, to save appearances, the island curates, with some of the rectors, will be gently touched in the most tender point. But the utmost that is proposed is a small diminution of the stipends, by no means comparable to the change spoken of in the salaries of other public officers. To have made the cases equal, all stipends should be refused, henceforward and for ever. But time must elapse before it will appear whether, after all, anything will be effected worthy of a word. The bill now passing the House is still *all blanks*; and, therefore, the sounds of opposition are hitherto very faint. Something, however, will have been gained, if the Assembly but once touches the treasures of the church, and we wait almost impatiently to see them cross the Rubicon.

The Evangelical Alliance, to which I referred in my last, if ever it is formed, will have no connexion with the British Alliance. This has been elicited by the events that have recently transpired, and from the meetings which have already been held. There is, happily, the utmost cordiality prevailing between the various Dissenting denominations; and there is but little doubt that it will work far more extensive good. The *Baptist Herald*, as such, is to cease, to make way for the *Christian Herald*, or some paper that will, from the commencement of the ensuing year, combine all Dissenters.

P. H. C.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

##### THE RECENT APPOINTMENT OF MR. YOUNG, AND HIS OFFICIAL CONDUCT IN GUIANA.

To the Editor of the *Nonconformist*.

SIR.—The following short letter, which explains itself, I sent to the editor of the *Times*, with my name and address. He has neither published it nor even noticed it.

I very respectfully request you to insert it in the columns of the *Nonconformist*, believing that while you have done and endured much in order to preserve the press from tyranny, you are equally ready to assist in preventing the press from being a tyrant.

I am, sir, with much respect,  
London, January 27, 1847.

THE WRITER.

To the Editor of the *Times*.

SIR.—In the *Times* of this morning, in a short notice of the appointment of Mr. U. E. Fox Young, to be lieutenant-governor of the eastern district of the Cape of Good Hope, you assert, that the gentleman in question, while holding the post of Government-secretary of British Guiana, had "the rare good fortune of uniting the confidence of the Government with the respect and good-will of the colonists."

I am not going to ask you to publish my sentiments as to the conduct of his Excellency while filling the situation alluded to, for you might think they were the results of prejudice. I simply request you, in common justice to parties who have felt it their duty to act in opposition to him in that capacity, to allow me to state a fact, with proofs of which the appropriate Parliamentary papers are filled, and which is, that for many years of his incumbency, so far from being regarded by "the colonists" with the feelings you describe, he was the object of the strong personal hostility of the major and more influential part of them, as many West Indians, now resident in London, can inform you. Previously to his quitting the colony last October, several highly respectable colonists did subscribe a highly flattering address to him; but it is just as true that many others, of equally good character and long standing, whose names are at your service, did not, and would not, join in that demonstration. They may have been right, or they may have been wrong, but they at least exercised the freedom of judgment which belongs to British subjects, and in the further prosecution of which, I doubt not but they will be ready to thank my Lord Grey most cordially for Mr. Young's preferment, inasmuch as it separates him from a province whose "colonists," unanimously acknowledging his great talents for public business, are marvellously divided on the subject of his political integrity.

I am, sir, your constant reader,  
ONE WHO HAS OPPOSED MR. YOUNG.  
London, January 22, 1847.

##### POLITICAL POSITION OF DISSENTERS.

To the Editor of the *Nonconformist*.

SIR.—I most fully concur with you in the opinion that some steps should be taken, without delay, to rally the friends of religious liberty throughout the kingdom. Unfortunately there are classes even amongst us—an aristocracy and a democracy. Our leaders, or rather, they who ought to be our leaders, are, with few exceptions, inactive. Men, upon whom the ability to do immense good has been bestowed, are at this crisis standing still, and are greater hindrances to our progress than our most determined opponents. They are full of doubts and fears, and constantly suggesting objections and difficulties. Some are afraid of "splitting the party," and think the continuance in office of the present Government a most important object. Others

think that the time for an aggressive policy has not yet come, or that the proposed mode of action is not exactly right; and thus, from numberless causes (none of which has any foundation in principle), we are kept back because we wait for the front men to advance. We should ask them respectfully to take their proper position in the movement; but if they decline, then let those behind move forward. There never was a time when a determined adherence to principle and a bold course of action were more needed than at this time. I believe that the people are right—the defect is in those who ought to lead them. But we should not overlook the fact that almost every good movement has at first been sustained almost entirely by the people; and when the severity of the battle has passed, and a good prospect of victory is seen, then the men of station and influence awake from their listlessness, join the ranks, or head the final onset and share the triumph.

In the recent Anti-corn-law agitation we had a striking illustration of this. The most influential men in this city kept back when Mr. Cobden first visited us. We could not get one of them to preside at the first public meeting we held. Two years afterwards great progress had been made, the movement had become more powerful, we had a second meeting, we obtained the consent of one of the magistrates to preside, but he was the only one of his class present. At the last meeting Mr. Cobden was crowded upon by the aristocracy, magistrates, and gentry—the mayor needed no persuasion to take the chair with the insignia of his office. The League had become a "great fact," and Mr. Cobden had been offered a seat in the Ministry. So will it be with the movement for religious freedom, which is based on nobler principles even than that which has just succeeded. It will at first be sustained by the people—for a time it may be thought contemptible and be almost unnoticed, but it will soon be abused, then it will be feared, after that a compromise may be attempted, which being resisted, complete victory will follow.

My object in writing this, is, through you, to call upon the people not to wait for their leaders. Let Committees be formed in every place, of active and honest men, to call meetings, to deliver lectures, and get up petitions. We have made arrangements for these objects in this city.

Lord John Russell and Sir R. Peel are earnestly desirous to make another establishment to confirm the existing one. Lord Lincoln has warmly advocated this policy. This indicates what is coming. A dissolution is at hand: it may come suddenly. Shall we remain asleep with such a measure in contemplation? The principles we advocate constitute the only basis upon which this proposition can be consistently resisted. The discussion on this point will precipitate the contest, and enlighten men's minds, and probably will be the forerunner of perfect religious freedom.

The Anti-corn-law League adopted a most admirable plan of ascertaining and making known the sentiments of the people, by obtaining petitions to Parliament, containing concise statements of the principles sought to be established. The people were called together, heard lectures or addresses, and adopted petitions embodying their sentiments. The presentation of these petitions did immense good—removed misconceptions, showed the feeling of the nation, acted upon Parliament, and reacted upon the people. If lectures or public meetings cannot be obtained, petitions can be with little trouble and expense. There is scarcely a parish—certainly not a town—in which there are not many sincerely and zealously attached to our principles, who would willingly become the machinery of this operation. I know no plan so likely to indoctrinate the people and impress the Legislature. Our timid friends, too, who are alarmed at the prospect of a violent agitation, will acquiesce in the constitutional and quiet process of petitioning.

But there is another object of great and immediate importance. What course is to be adopted at the next general election consistently with our principles, and in the contemplation of those measures with which we are threatened? It is necessary that our action should be, as far as possible, uniform throughout the kingdom. If such be the case, it will accomplish much good and will command respect. I suggest that a meeting should be held of friends of religious liberty from the principal city and borough constituencies to confer on this matter, and to recommend some course for general adoption.

Deliberation and decision without delay, is necessary, as many of our friends may commit themselves, unless some immediate measures be adopted for calling their attention to the urgent necessity of an adherence to our principles.

I have ventured (though I fear I shall be thought presumptuous) to make these suggestions. I should not have done so were I not assured that I give expression to the opinions and wishes of large number of others with whom I am connected.

I hope the Anti-state-church Association, whose exertions are most laudable, and the friends of religious liberty generally, will at once unite in some measures suited to the present juncture.

Yours very faithfully,  
Norwich.

J. HENRY TILLETT.

THE USE OF ETHER IN SURGICAL OPERATIONS.—Medical men employing the agency of ether to effect surgical operations without paining the patient, should be reminded that the vapour constantly given forth by this body is highly inflammable, and if brought into contact with flame while being inhaled, will be productive of very dangerous effects to the patient.

MONEY COST OF GLORY.—By the last accounts the Polk-and-glory policy (says the *Morning Chronicle*) is sadly hampered by the baser, though necessary, considerations that come under the head of "ways and means." Glory implies cash, or credit at one's bankers; and cash and credit mean taxes; and tax-paying is as disagreeable as glory is exhilarating and delightful. Our friends of the model republic recognize, of course, in theory, the inevitable and universal connexion subsisting between romance and reality, and are very busy about the requisite arrangements for Mr. Polk's little bill of costs.

We understand that Lord Torrington has been appointed Governor of Ceylon.—*Times*.

The Society of Arts contemplate the formation of a new species of Art-Union. It is proposed to collect together the paintings of some one eminent living artist of the English school once a year; to exhibit them in the great room of the society; to make a charge for admission; and to apply the profits of the exhibition to the purchase of a painting by the artist of the year, to be presented to the National Gallery. The picture to be painted expressly for the purpose. By these means, the Society of Arts would make a practical commencement towards forming a collection of the works of British artists.

The Emperor of Russia has conferred on M. Le Verrier, the astronomer, the cross of St. Stanislaus (2nd class).

#### LITERATURE.

*Memoirs of the late Rev. Christmas Evans.* By Rev. DAVID RHYS STEPHEN, of Manchester. London: Aylott and Jones. pp. 292.

"Vixere fortis ante Agamemnona  
Multi; sed omnes illacrimabiles  
Urgentur, ignotique longa  
Nocte, carent quia vata sacro."

VERY true, our watery-eyed friend; and the circumstance is much to be lamented, for degenerate humanity can ill afford to be ignorant of the sayings and doings of brave men. Still, as far as the fame of heroes is concerned, it is better they should remain unknown and unsung than be unworthily sung. Better have no likeness at all than a daub—a caricature.

It is a pity when the blind partiality, unscrupulousness, or selfish ends of the important personage styled "vates sacer," tempts him to drag little men out of the obscurity which so well became them, and to invest them with attributes which fit them as ill as Goliath's armour suited David; for

"Pigmies are pygmies still, though perch'd on Alps,  
And pyramids are pyramids in vales."

And it is, if possible, a still greater pity when one of those rare men "of whom the world is not worthy," has the misfortune to have his character delineated by a writer whose talents Day and Martin would have scorned to employ in celebrating the glories of their blacking.

The few Welsh worthies known to the English reader have, with three or four respectable exceptions, been introduced to his notice by parties whose intellectual and literary qualifications were scandalously meagre. David Jones, of Llangan (grandfather of Dr. Lewellin, Principal of St. David's College), Thomas Charles, of Bala, Daniel Rowland, and John Elias—men of whom any country might be proud—are known in England only through the pages of the Vicar of Syston.

Under these circumstances, our readers will sympathize with us when we express the unmixed satisfaction and joy which we experience in having to announce to them that one of Wales's great men, the late Christmas Evans, has mercifully met with a more auspicious fate, for his memoirs have just been published by a thoroughly able and qualified individual—Mr. D. Rhys Stephen, of Manchester. We congratulate all Welshmen on having this gentleman for Evans's biographer. A more competent and suitable person for the task could not have been found in all the Baptist denomination. More of him presently. In the meanwhile to our hero. The following beautiful allegory, about which we have a few words to say, was, we believe, the means of first making the name of Christmas Evans known in England. Samuel Breese, a gifted Welsh Baptist minister, happened to spend an evening in the company of some Bristol ministers, when the conversation turned upon the merits of different styles of preaching. He was a blunt man—brim-full of nationality—not overloaded with courtesy; and when asked his opinion, answered, with little deference to the feelings of the party, that the English preachers were not to be compared with his countrymen. This very naturally induced the company to call for specimens of Welsh eloquence, on which our valiant one, as is usual with Cambrians, began to enlarge at a fine rate on the beauty, force, and expressiveness of the Welsh language, and the pitiable inadequacy of the Saxon's tongue to do justice to Taffy's thoughts. Still he was pressed for specimens, when, after making a most supplicatory apology for his bad English, he gave them Evans's allegorical description of the atonement. In spite of the very imperfect diction in which Breese clothed the allegory, the friends were struck with its beauty, and were generous enough to speak of its merits in terms sufficiently strong to satisfy our red-hot Welshman. Dr. Raffles happened to be in Bristol shortly after, and, having heard of this allegory, resolved that the next time he visited North Wales he would try to ascertain Breese's whereabouts, and hear from his own lips a recital of this now somewhat celebrated piece of composition. He succeeded in his object; and it is to the Doctor that we are indebted for the costume in which he has clothed the thoughts which even in Breese's ragged drapery could not fail to strike and to please. Shortly after the appearance of the allegory in one of the Magazines (we forget which), Christmas Evans happened to be in Liverpool. The Doctor, learning that he was in the town, with his accustomed hospitality invited him to breakfast, after which he put the Magazine in his hands, and, pointing to the piece, asked him if he had ever said anything like that. The old man applied the page close to his eye (he had but one), and was soon heard squeaking his hem, ha, ho, (it was a peculiarity of our hero to speak in a squeaking tone, whenever anything particularly pleased him,) and when he got to the end he answered, "To be sure, I have said all this; but who put it into this fine English?" "It was I, Mr. Evans," replied the Doctor. "Was it, indeed?" "Well, Sir, I am much obliged to you," said Christmas.

Begging pardon for this gossiping preface, here is the allegory itself;—not new to all our readers, but doubtless new to some of them:—

"Were I," says Evans, "to describe the natural state of man, I should conceive an immense burial-ground, filled with yawning sepulchres, and dead and dying men. All around are lofty walls and massive iron gates. At the entrance stands *Mercy*, sad spectress of the melancholy scene. An angel, flying through the midst of Heaven, attracted by the awful sight, exclaims, 'Mercy, why do you not enter, and apply to these objects of compassion the restoring balm?'

Mercy replies, 'Alas! I dare not enter; Justice bars the way.' By her side appeared a form like the Son of man. 'Justice,' he cried, 'what are thy demands, that Mercy may enter, and stay this carnival of death?' 'I demand,' said Justice, 'pain for their ease, degradation for their dignity, shame for their honour, death for their life.' 'I accept the terms.' Now Mercy enter—'What pledge do you give for the performance of these conditions?' 'My word, my oath.' 'When will you fulfil them?' 'Four thousand years hence, upon the hill Calvary.'

"The bond was sealed in the presence of attendant angels, and committed to patriarchs and prophets. A long series of rites and ceremonies, sacrifices and oblations, was instituted, to preserve the memory of that solemn deed; and at the close of the four thousand years, behold, at the foot of Calvary, the incarnate Son of God! Justice too was there. In her hand she held the dreadful bond; she presented it to the Redeemer, and demanded the immediate fulfilment of its awful terms. He accepted the deed, and together they ascended to the summit of the Mount. Mercy was seen attendant at his side; and the weeping church followed in his train. When he reached the summit of the Mount, what did he to the bond? Did he tear it in pieces, and scatter it to the winds of Heaven? Ah, no!—He nailed it to his cross; and when the wood was prepared, and the devoted willing sacrifice stretched on the tree, Justice sternly exclaimed, 'Holy fire! descend from heaven, and burn this sacrifice.' The fire came down, and rapidly consumed his humanity; but when it touched his divinity, it expired. Then did the heavenly hosts break forth in rapturous strains,—'Glory to God in the highest, on earth peace, good-will towards men!'"

Such is a fair specimen of the genius of the man whom Mr. Stephen honours himself by writing his biography. Christmas Evans was a native of Cardiganshire, and was born on Christmas day, 1766. His father was a shoemaker, and miserably poor. He died when his son was in his ninth year. On the death of his father he was obliged to go out to service. His maternal uncle, who was a farmer, took him into his employ. This man was a drunken, brutal creature, and treated his nephew in a way which made his recollections of the time he spent with him excruciatingly bitter and painful. After living in one or two places as a farm servant, he entered, in the same capacity, the service of Mr. D. Davis, of Castell-hywel, who was an Arian minister, and a noted schoolmaster. Christmas's first religious connexion was with a Presbyterian congregation, in the neighbourhood of which his master was pastor. He subsequently joined the Baptists, and was first settled in Carnarvonshire as a stated minister; but the greater part of his active and useful life was spent in Anglesea, where he laboured for forty years. He was the apostle of the Baptists in that island, and was instrumental in establishing a great number of churches. His last charge was at Carnarvon; and it was on a begging excursion into South Wales, with a view to obtain help towards liquidating the debt on his chapel, that he died, at Swansea, in the month of July, 1838.

"The ruling passion" seems to have been "strong in death;" for his imagination conjured up a "chariot with horsemen;" his last words to the bystanders being—"Good bye! Drive on."

Christmas Evans was popular to the last. His mental character may be summed up in one word—*imagination*—gorgeous, imperious, overshadowing. His *passion* was equal to his imagination, and made red-hot its creations. He was a large-hearted man, ingenuous and unsuspecting as a child, and capable of the most ardent and generous friendship. His defects and faults sprung from the *head*, not the *heart*. His piety was deep and earnest, and his expressions healthy and active. His self-denial was apostolic, while his industry and perseverance were unremitting, and his labours most abundant.

We envy not the man who can read some parts of his life with an unmoved heart and a dry eye. It is with no common interest that we have followed the friendless farm servant-boy from his humble origin, with its multitude of attendant obstacles and trials, down to the point where we find thousands hanging on his lips, and delighting to acknowledge the magic spell of his eloquence.

We think the friends and admirers of Christmas Evans have every reason to be pleased with the manner in which Mr. Stephen has performed his "labour of love" as biographer. He has written the life of his friend *con amore* of course—and we like it none the less on this account; but he has exercised a discriminating judgment in the delineation of Mr. Evans's character. He has not betrayed his want of taste and judgment by exalting the most popular man among the Baptists in Wales into a god. The work is not disfigured by wholesale praise, blind admiration, and hero-worship; while the genial kindness of spirit which pervades the whole of it, together with the respectful and generous mention of parties belonging to other denominations, added to the very considerable amount of *incidental* information in footnotes, enhances its value, and entitles it to circulation among, not only the Baptists, but all sections of the religious world.

#### GLEANINGS.

The secret of how to give dahlias a natural perfume has been offered for sale.

All Paris, says a correspondent of the *Pharmaceutical Times*, may be compared to an ever-burning camphor-kettle. Old and young, rich and poor, everybody of every degree, smoking camphor cigars.

Dr. Baudelocque has communicated to the French Academy of Sciences, that by a new surgical treatment he had restored audition, and the elements of speech, to a deaf and dumb boy, nine years old.

BIRTH EXTRAORDINARY.—On Friday, the 15th inst., the wife of William Leedham, collar maker, of Yoxall, was safely delivered of a male child, and on the following day of two other male children! Up to Wednesday night last

the mother and children were all doing well.—*Staffordshire Advertiser*.

Myriads of bushels of sprats are now being caught in the Lower Swin, off the Essex coast, and sold to the farmers for manure at the rate of 8d. per bushel.

An American mechanic has invented a brick-making machine which presses bricks by a cylinder, like a printing-machine, and can turn out 40,000 bricks of the first quality in a day.

The Liverpool papers continue to tell of the immense argoes of corn that arrive from America. It is believed to have been chiefly bought up by speculators.

Among the questions relative to the creation, asked at a school examination in Trinidad, before the Governor, was "Where was the dry land before it appeared?" Answer, "Under the water."

HUDSON'S NEW TOWN.—The extensive factories in connexion with the locomotive and carriage works of the Eastern Counties railway creating adjacent to the station at Stratford, and the three hundred houses and church for the accommodation of the company's workmen, has received the title of Hudson's New Town.

The *Presse* states that Lord Palmerston has secretly made offers for the purchase of Egypt after the death of Mohamed Ali!

The Bureau des Longitudes of Paris has agreed with the principal astronomers of Europe—such as Encke, Gausz, Herschell, and Struve—in giving the name of Neptune to the new planet discovered by M. Le Verrier. The sign of this planet in celestial maps is to be a trident.—*Galignani*.

A writer in the *Ceylon Times* represents that colony as the most tractable which Britain possesses, there having been no disturbance in it for twenty-six years, and yet the colonists are made to pay twenty-five per cent. of revenue for military purposes.

A son-in-law of Mr. O'Connell's has been appointed a stipendiary magistrate in Ireland.

Petitions to Parliament for the abolition of Smithfield market are in course of signature in London.

An out-house at Beacon Lodge, Hants, the residence of Mr. Grantley Berkeley, has been broken into, and robbed of various creatures. The senator has thus lost "six long-eared Spanish rabbits, two young game-cocks, trimmed, six bantam hens," and other birds.

The *Nuremberg Correspondent* says that the censors of the press in Prussia have prohibited the *National*, the *Siecle*, the *Charivari*, French papers, and of the English papers, our facetious, witty friend, *Punch*.

The loss and misapplications of moneys in London, from the neglect of sanitary measures, is calculated at three millions and a quarter annually.

HOW TO REACH THE NORTH POLE.—Sir J. Ross has written to the Astronomical Society, informing that body that he had submitted a plan to the Admiralty for carrying into execution the double and desirable objects of measuring an arc of the meridian and reaching the North Pole. His plan is to winter at Spitzbergen, and employ his officers and crew under the direction of the son of the celebrated Professor Schuhmacher, whom he has engaged for the purpose, and at the proper season, attempt to reach the North Pole on sledges drawn by Swedish horses, being a modification of the plan proposed first by Dr. Scoresby.

The *Falmouth Packet* states that it is the intention of Government to erect forthwith a battery at Penlee Point, so as to command Cawsand Bay.

MATRIMONY, "ESPECIALLY TO THOSE INCLINED."—The matrimonial advertising itch is progressing northwards. Tain has caught the infection. A recent number of a northern contemporary contains the following:—"MATRIMONY.—The advertiser begs to intimate, that, after a space of twenty-three years of single life, he is now anxious, providing he could obtain a suitable partner, to engage in the holy order of marriage. It is the advertiser's opinion that an opportunity of such rare occurrence to respectable ladies, and especially to those inclined, is very seldom offered. He holds a permanent situation, yielding an income of £150 per annum. His habits are temperate, morals and temper good, and connexions respectable. All letters to be addressed (post paid) to X. Y. Z., Tain, will be attended to and held strictly secret. 2nd January, 1847." The advertiser makes several important omissions. He makes no mention of his looks, size, colour of hair, length of beard. For aught people know, he may be either one of the Ross-shire dwarfs, or a second Daniel Lambert. Is he hunch-backed, bow-legged, squint-eyed, big-nosed, large-mouthed, turnip-headed, bushy-whiskered, long-eared, shaggy-haired, crooked-necked, &c., &c.? "X. Y. Z." will please inform us in course, as a number of ladies in our hyperborean regions are quite anxious to become candidates for his—£150 per annum."—*John o' Groat's Journal*.

"NOT ONE WORD."—During the régime of the Peel Administration an important situation in Ireland became vacant, to which an Irish relative of the Duke wished to be appointed. He therefore wrote to his Grace, and, after stating his wish, concluded his letter with these words:—"One word from your Grace will be sufficient." The Duke sent the following laconic and characteristic reply:—"Dear —, Not one word—from yrs. affly., Wellington."—*Morning Herald*.

THE SECRET OF UNHAPPY HOMES.—Why goes forth that man this Saturday evening from the roof under which his children live? Why turns he from their engaging little attempts to detain him, and roughly moves them away, while he loves them dearly? Why sits another by his fire, sullen, discontented, unwilling to speak the kindly word, while his heart is yearning for converse and enjoyment? Why flies the cruel speech to her for whom the bosom's strongest affection is nourished? And why, searching into deeper depths, why does man become so often a tyrant, so often a criminal in his home. Truth has to be told; but, oh! listen to it kindly, for it is hard to tell. It is because woman does not truly appreciate her mission in domestic life. Under the present conditions of existence, she has become weighed down by cares. As a wife she is different from what she was as a mistress. She is ever employed in drudgery for her children and her household. She neglects her dress; she forgets her manners. Her husband sees the change, and does not perhaps find sufficient excuse for it from the conditions she labours under. He flies to the tavern and billiard table. And she increases in sourness and asperity as she increases in years. That much of this is owing to the present circumstances of social life, is true; but that much of it is chargeable to a sad submission to those circumstances, is also but too true. It is more or less in the power of women to make their domestic life more attractive to their husbands, and more holy in its disciplines and ends, than they now do. A greater regularity in time—a greater simplicity in dress—a more determined adherence

to that which is right in one's own eyes, rather than that which is well thought of in the eyes of others—an orderly apportioning of various periods for different occupations—would make evenings at home pass away very differently to what, in the great majority of cases, they now are doing.—*People's Journal*.

ROGERS AND CHANTREY.—THE BARD AND THE SCULPTOR.—In the breakfast-room of Mr. Rogers, in his house in St. James's-place, stands a mahogany pillar on pedestal, about three feet high, on which a vase is usually placed, and which is ornamented with carvings very ingeniously done, and evidently executed by the hand of an artist of no small skill. It happened about twenty-five years ago that Chantrey, the sculptor, was one morning breakfasting with Rogers, when the latter seeing the eye of his guest directed towards this pillar, took occasion to mention the ornamental part of it as the work of an unpretending but ingenious carver in wood, whom he had employed to do it about twenty years before. "And do you not remember the name of the artist?" asked Chantrey. Rogers replied that, from the time which had elapsed, he should not be able to recall either his name or his person to recollection. Chantrey then informed him, no doubt much to his surprise, that it was he himself who had executed these ornaments before he entered upon his career as a sculptor, when, we have heard, Sir Francis was in the habit of executing carvings in wood for any one who might employ him.—*Church of England Journal*.

#### BIRTHS.

Jan. 22, at Liverpool, the wife of Mr. JOHN KELLY, Independent minister, of a daughter.

Jan. 27, at Dorchester, the lady of JOHN PATTY ALDRIDGE, Esq., of a son.

Jan. 28, at Finchley-road, St. John's Wood, Mrs. EDWARD HUNTER, of a daughter.

Jan. 28, in Sussex-terrace, Plymouth, the wife of ALFRED ROOKER, Esq., solicitor, of a daughter.

Jan. 30, the wife of Mr. J. E. JUDSON, minister, of Lindfield, of a son.

#### MARRIAGES.

Jan. 22, at the Independent Chapel, South Molton, by Mr. T. Giles, minister, Mr. RICHARD BASTON, of Newton Abbot, to Miss ELIZABETH TAPP, second daughter of William Jones Tapp, Esq., of South Molton.

Jan. 24, at Trinity Chapel, East India-road, by the pastor, Mr. George Smith, Mr. ROBERT FOX, of Her Majesty's Customs, to Miss TURNER, both of Poplar.

Jan. 26, at the Independent Chapel, Warwick, by the pastor, Mr. J. W. Percy, HENRY MASTERTON to ELIZABETH UNDERHILL, both of Barford.

Jan. 26, at the Old Meeting, Bedford, by the pastor, Mr. J. Jukes, Mr. ROWLAND HILL, to SOPHIA, only surviving daughter of the late Mr. John MILLER, silversmith and jeweller, of the above place.

Jan. 28, at the Congregational Chapel, Hungerford, by Mr. R. Frost, Mr. JAMES CRICKETT, minister, of Adderbury, Oxfordshire, to Miss BARTLETT, of Hungerford, Berks.

Jan. 29, by Mr. J. W. Phair, at the Congregational Chapel, Little Hadham, Herts, WILLIAM LIVINGSTON to CATHERINE DAY PURDUE, both of Broughing.

Jan. 29, at the Independent Chapel, Walsall, by the pastor, Mr. A. GORDON, A.M., Mr. BENJAMIN SOUTHWELL, B.A., missionary to China, to ANN ELIZABETH SWIFT, of Walsall.

#### DEATHS.

Jan. 23, at Ross, Elizabeth, youngest daughter of the late Mr. JOSEPH RUSSELL, aged 21 years.

Jan. 23, aged 61, Mr. ROBERT LOCKWOOD, druggist, of Hull, the beloved father of Mr. John Lockwood, pastor of the Congregational Church, Tavistock, Devonshire.

Jan. 23, at Glasgow, Dr. BROWN, of Free St. John's Church, in his 70th year.

Jan. 24, aged 64, HENRY WYATT, Esq., at his residence, Farm Hill, Stroud, Gloucestershire, a magistrate of that county. The loss of this excellent gentleman will be long and deeply felt by the public in general, and particularly by the religious community, whose benevolent and educational schemes, with those of other denominations, have been for so many years and so liberally aided by him.

Jan. 25, after a few hours' illness, in his 80th year, Mr. EDWARD BELL, of Leeds, a deacon of the church assembling in East Parade Chapel.

Jan. 26, Mr. W. CLOWES, the head of the largest printing establishment in Europe. He was a native of Chichester, had been in the trade forty years in London, and was one of the first to use the steam-press. At Duke-street, Stamford-street, he used to work off half a million sheets in a week.

Jan. 26, after a short illness, JOSEPH WILLIAM KING, eldest son of Mr. John King, of Ryeford Mills, Stonehouse, Gloucestershire, at the age of 16 years.

Jan. 27, in the faith of the Lord, ANNIE EPPS, aged 19, the sister of Dr. Epps, at Warlingham, Surrey, of consumption.

Jan. 28, after a short illness, GEORGE HENRY, youngest son of Mr. Thomas CHALLIS, of Westmoreland-place, City-road, in the 6th year of his age.

Jan. 28, in the 64th year of her age, MARIA, relict of Mr. J. G. WIGG, late of East Dereham, and daughter of Mr. John Carter, first pastor of the Independent church at Mattishall, Norfolk.

Jan. 29, Mr. BENJAMIN HARRISON, of Luton, Beds, in the 84th year of his age.

Jan. 30, aged 39, at the residence of his brother-in-law, Mr. HAYTER, of Cucklington, near Wincanton, after an afflicting illness of more than five years, which was borne with great Christian fortitude and resignation to the Divine will, THOMAS, the eldest son of Mr. T. DENNY, minister, of Longfleet, Poole, Dorset.

Lately at Ipswich, in his 71st year, Mr. J. T. NOTTIDOW, rector of the parishes of St. Clement and St. Helen, in that town. He was foremost in all works of charity, was a constant attendant at religious meetings, and willingly aided the Dissenters in their efforts for promoting the eternal welfare of their fellow-men. A numerous body of the local clergy and Dissenting ministers, together with several of the principal inhabitants of the town, personal friends of the deceased, formed part of the procession at his funeral, on Thursday last.

#### TRADE AND COMMERCE.

Friday, January 29.

The following buildings are certified as places duly registered for solemnizing marriages, pursuant to an act of the 6th and 7th William IV., c. 85:—

Ince Blundell Chapel, Lancashire.

Wesley Chapel, Toxteth Park, Lancashire.

#### BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

HARFORD, DANIEL, Birmingham, victualler.

#### BANKRUPTS.

ABLETT, JOHN BRILL, Merthyr Tidfil, linen draper, Feb. 16, March 16: solicitors, Mr. Buchanan, Basinghall-street, London; and Mr. Bush, Bristol.

ASPINAL, JOHN, Manchester, cotton manufacturer, Feb. 11, March 4: solicitors, Messrs. Milne and Co., Temple, London; and Messrs. Slater and Heelis, Manchester.

BROWN, ROBERT, Milner-place, Lambeth, baker, Feb. 5, March 20: solicitor, Mr. Southcote, Ely-place, Holborn.

CLEVERLEY, WILLIAM, Cumberland-place, Old Kent-road, floor-cloth manufacturer, Feb. 8, March 8: solicitor, Mr. Lewis, Gray's Inn-square.

COWPER, WILLIAM FREDERICK, COWPER, BENJAMIN FARRER, and COOPER, PAUL EDWIN, Darlington, linen drapers, Feb. 9, March 15: solicitors, Mr. G. Allison, Darlington; Mr. Philipson, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; and Messrs. Tilson and Co., Coleman-street, London.

DAVIS, JOHN, Wedmore, Somersetshire, tailor, Feb. 12, March 12: solicitor, Mr. Sheppard, Wells.

FISKE, THOMAS HAMMOND, Portsmouth, ironmonger, Feb. 5, March 8: solicitors, Messrs. Taylor and Co., Great James-street, Bedford-row.

FLOWER, JAMES, jun., Stonehouse, brewer, Feb. 11, March 4: solicitors, Mr. N. Ware, Plymouth; and Mr. J. J. Blake, Blackfriars-road, London.



**ROWLANDS' UNIQUE PREPARATIONS.**—Patronized by her Majesty the Queen, his Royal Highness Prince Albert, the Royal Family and Nobility of Great Britain, as well as the several Sovereigns and Courts of Europe.

**ROWLANDS' MACASSAR OIL.**

This elegant, fragrant, and transparent oil, in its preservative, restorative, and beautifying qualities for the human hair, is unequalled throughout the whole world. Price 3s. 6d., 7s. Family bottles (equal to four small), 10s. 6d., and double that size, 21s. per bottle.

**ROWLANDS' HAIR WASH.**

This is a preparation from the choicest Oriental Herbs, of peculiarly mild and detergent properties. It pleasantly and effectually cleanses the hair and skin of the head of surff and every species of impurity, and imparts a delicate fragrance. It entirely supersedes the necessity for using the fine comb, so injurious to the tender skin of the head; and, from its beneficial effects on the health, together with the grateful and refreshing sensation it imparts, and being perfectly innocent in its nature, will prove an invaluable appendage to the toilet, and the purposes of the nursery.—3s. 6d. per bottle.

**ROWLANDS' MELACOMIA;**

The most successful liquid preparation ever known in this or any other country, for dyeing the hair of the head, whiskers, moustaches, and eyebrows a natural and permanent brown or black, so exactly resembling the natural colour of the hair as to defy detection. It is perfectly innocent in its nature, is free from unpleasant smell, and can be used by any lady or gentleman with the greatest ease and secrecy. Its effect is so permanent, that neither water nor perspiration will influence it; and it is entirely free from those properties (usual in hair dyes) which give an unnatural red or purple tint to the hair. Price 5s.

**ROWLAND'S KALYDOR;**

An Oriental balsamic preparation, of singular efficacy in rendering the skin soft, clear, and fair, bestowing a healthy roseate hue on the complexion, and eradicating all cutaneous eruptions, freckles, tan, and discolourations.

**ROWLAND'S ODONTO, or PEARL DENTIFRICE;**

A fragrant White Powder for the Teeth, compounded of the choicest and most recherché ingredients of the Oriental herbal; of inestimable virtue for preserving and beautifying the Teeth and strengthening the Gums, and for giving sweetness and perfume to the breath. Price 2s. 9d. per box.

**ROWLANDS' ALSANA EXTRACT,**

For immediately relieving the most violent tooth-ache, gum-boils, and swelled face, and which by constantly using prevents those maladies. In the anguish of excruciating pain it affords instantaneous relief. It is perfectly innocent in its nature, and is under the sanction of the first physicians.—Price 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d., and 10s. 6d. per bottle.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION.**—Unprincipled Individuals, for the sake of gaining a trifle more profit, vend the most spurious compounds, under the names of "Macassar Oil," "Kalydor," and "Odonto;" some under the implied sanction of royalty, and the government departments, with similar attempts at deception. They copy the labels, advertisements, and testimonials (substituting fictitious names and addresses for the real) of the original preparations. It is therefore highly necessary to see that the word "ROWLANDS'" is on the wrapper of each article.

\* All others are FRAUDULENT IMITATIONS!

The Genuine articles are sold by every respectable Perfumer and Chemist throughout the kingdom.

**SILVER SUPERSEDED, and those corrosive and injurious metals called Nickel and German Silver supplanted by the introduction of a new and perfectly matchless ALBATA PLATE.**

C. WATSON (late Alderman), 41 and 42, Barbican, and 16, Norton-Folgate, aided by a person of Science in the amalgamation of metals, has succeeded in bringing to public notice the most beautiful article ever yet offered; possessing all the richness of silver in appearance—with all its durability and hardness—with its perfect sweetness in use—undergoing as it does a chemical process, by which all that is nauseous in mixed metals is entirely extracted—resisting all acids—may be cleaned as silver—and is manufactured into every article for the table and sideboard.

**ALBATA PLATE.**

Albata Plate.	Good Fiddle.	Very Strong Fiddle.	Tareaded.	King's.
Table Spoons and Forks	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
	16 6 doz	11 0 doz	30 0 per doz	35 0 per doz
Dessert Spoons and Forks	12 6 ..	16 6 ..	25 0 ..	28 0 ..
Tea Spoons .....	5 6 ..	8 0 ..	13 6 ..	13 6 ..
Salt Spoons .....	6 0 ..	12 0 gilt	18 0 ..	18 0 ..
Egg Spoons .....	7 0 ..	15 0 ..	13 6 gilt 24s	13 6 gilt 24s
Mustard Spoons ..	6 0 ..	12 0 ..	13 6 ..	13 6 ..
Gravy Spoons .....	3 6 ea	4 6 ea	7 6 each	7 6 each
Sauce Ladles .....	3 6 pair	4 6 pair	7 6 pair	7 6 pair
Soup Ladles .....	6 0 ..	8 0 ..	11 0 ..	12 0 ..
Sugar Sifters .....	3 6 ea	5 0 ea	5 6 each	5 6 each
Sugar Tong .....	1 3 pair	1 9 pair	3 0 pair	3 0 pair
Fish Knives .....	5 6 ea	8 6 ea	12 6 each	10 6 each
Butter Knives .....	1 9 ..	..	2 0 ..	..
	Octagon Handles.	Threaded.		King's.
Table Knives, with Albata Plate Handles, and Waranted Steel Blades .....	s. d.	s. d.		s. d.
Dessert ditto, to match .....	22 6 per doz	25 0 per doz	25 0 per doz	
Carver and Fork .....	18 6 pr pair	19 6 pr pair	19 6 pr pair	
	8 6	8 6	8 6	

C. WATSON begs the public will understand that this metal is peculiarly his own, and that silver is not more different from gold than his metal is from all others. On its intrinsic merit alone he wishes it to be tested; and, from the daily increasing eulogiums he receives, he is convinced that nothing can prevent its becoming an article of universal wear.

Ivory Table Knives, 1s. per dozen; dessert, 9s.; Carvers, 3s. 6d. per pair.

3s.-inch handsome Balance-handle Table Knives, 18s. per dozen dessert, 14s.; Carvers, 6s. 6d. per pair.

4s.-inch Balance-handle Table Knives, largest and best made, 20s. per dozen; dessert, 16s.; Carvers, 7s. 6d. per pair.

Ditto, with Watson's Albata Plate handles, equal to silver, 20s. 6d. per dozen; dessert, 18s.; Carvers, 8s. 6d. per pair.

Forks half the price of the above.

**FRUIT DESSERT KNIVES, with FRENCH FORKS,** of C. WATSON'S NEW ALBATA PLATE (which is so rapidly superseding silver), in sets of twenty-four pieces, with ivory handles, 4s.; carved ivory handles, 5s.; Albert pattern handles, 5s.; in mahogany cases, 10s. extra. The Establishments of C. Watson have ranked pre-eminent for fifty years for their superior Table Cutlery, the whole of which is marked with his name and address, and subject to exchange if not approved of.

**THREE PAPIER MACHE TEA-TRAYS,** 3s.; a set of three Gothic-shape ditto (including the largest size) for 3s. 3s.; three Gothic-shape japanned ditto, 2s.; three Sandwich-shape ditto, 1s.; and every article in Furnishing Hardware unusually low. Quality is here the primary consideration; hence their uninterrupted success for fifty years, and their present celebrity, as the most and most extensive Furnishing Warehouses in London.

C. WATSON'S handsomely Illuminated Catalogue and Price Current is published, and families who regard economy and elegance should possess themselves of this useful book, which may be had gratis and Post Free from the above Address.

**APSLEY PELLATT and Co.** (late Pellatt and Green) respectfully inform the public that, at their manufactory, Holland-street, Blackfriars, they retail GLASS, China, and Earthenware, Chandlers, Lustres, and every variety of English and Foreign Ornamental Vases, Tazzas, &c. Their showrooms are equal to any in London, and their stock of the most superior and approved description. Foreign orders and outfitts executed with despatch. N.B. No establishment in the City. Western Branch, 58, Baker-street, Portman-square.

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This Society was formed on the 17th March, 1846, with a view to effect the extinction of Debts existing upon Chapels, School-rooms, and other Public Buildings, as well as to assist in the enlargement of such buildings, or the erection of new ones.

The Directors have observed with pleasure an increasing disposition to carry out this object, and in order to facilitate its accomplishment, have determined to issue ONE THOUSAND ADDITIONAL SHARES, upon each of which shall be paid an Entrance-fee of 3s., and a Monthly Subscription of 12s. for Twelve Years. The first Monthly Payment to be made March 16th, 1847. The amount to be advanced on each Share, during the first year, will be £60 15s., which will be increased in the following years according to Table approved by the Actuary of "The Legal and General Life Assurance Society," thus excluding all the evils attending the system of competition for advances.

In allotting these new Shares, a preference will be given to those applicants who desire to take them in order to effect the extinction of Debts existing upon Chapels, School-rooms, and other Public Buildings. Should the whole One Thousand Shares not be required for these purposes, the residue will be allotted to parties who may desire them in order to obtain the means of purchasing property, redeeming mortgages, or as a profitable mode of investing their surplus income. The allotment of the Shares will take place February 16th, 1847.

Prospectuses, with forms of application for Shares, may be obtained on application to the Secretary, Mr. WILLIAM LOVELY, 60, Paternoster-row, London; if by post, postage paid.

**PATENT ELASTIC BANDS,** warranted not to be affected by the cold or heat of any season or climate. These Rings or Bands are used instead of tape or string, for holding papers and parcels of every description.

One of these rings is instantly placed round a packet of papers, a roll of Maps, Prints, Music, &c., holding the same firmly and securely, saving the time and trouble of tying, yet allowing of very great addition or reduction without any loss of compactness.

They are well adapted for Garters (a size being selected which requires little stretching); also for the Waist, and different parts of the body; Surgical Bandages, and for a variety of Surgical and Manufacturing purposes.

These Bands are also very suitable for fastening the Covers of Preserve and Pickle Jars, Bottles, &c.

In addition to the above, there is a great variety of uses too numerous to mention, for which these Bands may be applied with advantage; and new applications will constantly suggest themselves when in use.

They may be had of two thicknesses, and are sold in Boxes of six dozen each, of assorted sizes, price 6d. per box and upwards.

Bands may be had to order, of various widths and thicknesses.

The above articles are sold by all Stationers and Dealers in Metallic Pens, Wholesale and for exportation by Perry and Co., at No. 37, Red Lion-square, London; and also by Charles Mackintosh and Co., Manufacturers, Manchester and Birmingham.

**VICKERS'S GINGER BRANDY.** Experience teaches us that the beneficial productions of the earth are themselves sufficient for man's earthly good; especially when rightly directed, and adopted in accordance with the exercise of reason.

Ginger, the almost spontaneous growth of a sunny clime, offers, in his own land, its invigorating aid, to recruit the exhausted energies of the enervated Indian; and in other quarters of the globe needful provides the luscious and grateful orange, as the needful renovator.

After the most acute medical research, professors are compelled to admit, that nature herself presents the most delicate and efficient remedies, in the temperate use of the Seville orange and Jamaica ginger. By the means of commerce we are enabled to obtain these good things; and by a skilful and judicious operation, we are enabled to offer to the world a combination of these excellent remedial qualities, eminently useful in spasm, flatulence, and sensations of cold. And, indeed, for whatever purpose stimulants are required, there are none more wholesome—none more pure—none more efficacious, than VICKERS'S GINGER BRANDY.

**THE ORANGE GINGERETTE** is an article less highly concentrated, and so compounded as to be acceptable to the Ladies, and those to whom a stronger Liqueur is not necessary.

**THE CURACAO PUNCH** stands pre-eminent for delicacy of flavour and superiority of quality; and may be used either as a Liqueur, or in combination with warm or cold water.

**THE IMPERIAL LIQUEUR GENEVA** has long stood the test of public approval: it is the subject of much careful attention in its distillation; and nothing finer can be produced by the British distiller.

The above are all Bottled, Sealed, and Labelled at the Distillery of JOSEPH AND JOHN VICKERS and Co., LONDON; and may be obtained, as well as their far-famed Orange Boven, Curacao, Cherry Brandy, Gold Wasser, and Crème de Noyau, of all the Spirit Merchants in the kingdom.

Borough Market Distillery, London.

**FAMILIES THEIR OWN BREWERS.**—The following is the Certificate of Andrew Ure, Esq., M.D., F.R.S., &c.:—

"I hereby certify that I have examined the Malt Extract, as also the Pale Malt Extract with Hop for Brewing Beer, and the Brown Malt Extract for Brewing Porter, as recently made at the factory of the British Malt Extract Company, and I find them all to be exceedingly well prepared and perfectly adapted to the purpose of making the above two beverages of the best quality and in the simplest manner."—13, Charlotte-street, Bedford-square, 8th Dec., 1846. These extracts enable private individuals to make fine Home-Brewed Ale and Porter, without employing any Brewing Utensils. It has only to be dissolved in hot water and fermented. Sold in jars for samples and other purposes, at 1s. to 1s. 6d.; and in bottles, for brewing Nine to Eighteen Gallons, and upwards, at 6s. 6d. and 12s. 6d. each, by the BRITISH NATIONAL MALT EXTRACT COMPANY, 7, Nicholas-lane, Lombard-street, London; Petty, Wood, and Co., 12, King William-street, City; Wix and Sons, 22, Leadenhall-street; Batty and Co., 15, Finsbury-pavement; D' Castro and Peach, 63, Piccadilly; Hockin and Co., 38, Duke-street, Manchester-square; and O'Brien and Grocers generally.

Also, just published, Seventeenth Thousand, gratis, NATIONAL BREWING; a Guide to the Use of CONCENTRATED MALT AND HOP EXTRACT, for BREWING AND WINE MAKING; to which is added MEDICAL OPINIONS relative to the virtues of Malt and Hops.

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CONTENTS of the MONTHLY PART for FEBRUARY of the

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Neglected Genius. W. Hunt.  
Village Gossip. Kenny Meadows.

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Thought and Deed. W. J. Linton.  
Condition of Factory Women. Dr. Smiles.  
The Last Hour; a Tale. W. B. Bateman.  
Cracow. Joseph Mazzini.

And an Address from the Editor to the Readers of the *People's Journal*.

This Part commences a new Volume. In addition to the Authors and Artists above named, Papers by Douglas Jerrold, Mrs. Loudon, George Thompson, Camilla Toulmin, Charles Mackay, &c., &c.; and Designs by C. L. Eastlake, R.A.; C. W. Cope, R.A.; T. Creswick, R.A., &c., &c., will appear in the Journal.

London: *People's Journal* Office, 69, Fleet-street. Sold by all Booksellers and News-men; of whom a Picture-Prospectus may be obtained, free.

William Howitt and the *People's Journal*.—A Statement of the whole case will be furnished (free) with No. LIII., February 13, and with the March Part.

TO THE INDEPENDENT ELECTORS of the  
CITY OF WESTMINSTER.

GENTLEMEN.—The question having been frequently asked me, in the course of my canvass in your city, whether or not I am in favour of endowing the Roman Catholic priesthood of Ireland, I beg to take this opportunity of informing those of your body with whom I have not yet had the pleasure of communicating personally, that I will give my most strenuous opposition to any such proposal, from whatever quarter it may emanate, and under whatever circumstances it may be brought forward.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,  
CHARLES COCHRANE.

Devonshire-place,  
Thursday, Jan. 28, 1847.

WHITTINGTON CLUB and METROPOLITAN  
ATHENÆUM.

The FIRST SOIREE of the MEMBERS and their Friends will be held at the LONDON TAVERN, on WEDNESDAY, the 17th February.

DOUGLAS JERROLD, Esq., President, in the Chair;  
supported by

Cowden Clark, Esq. William Howitt, Esq., V.P.  
Mrs. Cowden Clark. Mrs. Mary Howitt, V.P.  
Ferdinand Freiligrath, Esq. Charles Knight, Esq., V.P.  
R. H. Horne, Esq., V.P. J. Humphreys Parry, Esq.

Dr. Southwood Smith,

And many other eminent individuals.  
Further particulars may be obtained at the Office, 68, Cheapside.

## RECOGNITION SERVICES.

ON THURSDAY, February 11, 1847, the Rev. J. ELRICK, M.A., will be publicly recognised as Pastor of the CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH assembling in WHITEFIELD CHAPEL, Charles-street, Long Acre, when the following Ministers have engaged to take part in the Services:—

The opening Devotional Services will be conducted by the Rev. JAMES SHERMAN, of Surrey Chapel.

The Introductory Discourse, explanatory of the Nature and Constitution of a Christian Church, will be delivered by the Rev. JOHN LEIFCHILD, D.D., of Craven Chapel.

The usual Questions to the Church and Minister will be proposed by the Rev. SAMUEL MARTIN, of Westminster Chapel.

The Recognition Prayer will be offered by the Rev. THOMAS LEWIS, of Islington.

The Charge to the Minister will be given by the Rev. THOMAS ADKINS, of Southampton.

And in the Evening the Rev. JOHN MORRISON, D.D., LL.D., of Brompton, will preach the Sermon to the People.

The other devotional parts of the Services will be conducted by the Rev. JOHN ROBINSON, the Rev. J. A. MILLER, and other neighbouring Ministers.

The Morning Service to commence at Eleven o'Clock, the Evening at Half-past Six.

The Ministers and Friends will dine together at the FREE-MASONS' TAVERN, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's Inn-fields. Tickets 5s. 6d. each; double tickets, 10s.; may be obtained of Mr. Gardner, Crown-street, Soho; Mr. Haig, 15, Southampton-row, Russell-square; Mr. Hart, 109, Hatton-garden; Mr. Jones, 48, Theobald's-road; Mr. Laman, Leather-lane; Mr. Matts, 23, Regent-square, and at the Offices of the *Patriot* and *Nonconformist* newspapers. Application for tickets to the Dinner is requested to be made by the 8th instant.

Tea will be provided in the School-room at Five o'Clock.

STARTLING NOVELTY in the FINE ARTS.—  
CAMERA LUNARIS; or, MOONLIGHT VIEWS.

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